NJMA NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 38-5 September – October 2008

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NJMA EVENTS HOTLINE

908-362-7109 for information on NJMA events or cancellations due to bad weather.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2 - 28 **(Every day, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm)**	**NJMA Art & Photography Exposition: A WORLD OF MUSHROOMS** at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown
Sunday, September 7 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Rancocas Audubon Nature Center** *Leader: Judy Mudrak*
Sunday, September 14 **10:00 am**	**GRETE TURCHICK FORAY & PICNIC** **Stokes State Forest, Kittle Field area** *Leader: Bob Hosh (Bring a food dish to share, along with a list of its ingredients, and bring your own picnic gear.)*
Sunday, September 28 **10:00 am - 4:00pm**	**FUNGUS FEST 2008** at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown
Sunday, October 5 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Washington Crossing State Park** *Leader: Glenn Freeman*
Saturday, October 11 **6:00 pm**	**CULINARY GROUP JAPANESE DINNER** *at the Unitarian Society, Tices Lane, East Brunswick*
Sunday, October 12 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Cattus Island County Park** *Leader: Igor Safonov*
Saturday, October 18 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Cheesequake State Park** *Leader: Glenn Boyd*
Sunday, October 26 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Brendan Byrne State Forest** *Leader: Rod Tulloss*
Sunday, November 2 **2:00 pm**	**MEETING AND LECTURE** **Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown** ***Dr. Gary Samuels*** *of the Systematic Botany and Mycology Lab in Beltsville, MD will talk about mycoparasite diversity.*
Sunday, November 9 **10:00 am**	**FORAY: Wells Mills County Park** *Leader: Nina Burghardt*

Directions to the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown

Traveling from the South: I-287 Northbound to Exit 36A (Morris Ave.). Proceed East approx. 1/2 mile in the center lane, past Washington Headquarters (on left). Take left fork onto Whippany Road. Turn left at 2nd traffic light onto East Hanover Avenue. Proceed for about 1/4 mile. Entrance is on left, opposite the Morris County Library.

Traveling from the North: I-287 Southbound to Exit 36, following signs for Ridgedale Avenue (bear right in exit ramp). Proceed to traffic light, then turn right onto Ridgedale Avenue. At 2nd traffic light, turn right onto East Hanover Avenue. Proceed for about 1/4 mile. The Arboretum entrance is on the right just past the traffic light at the Morris County Library.

Traveling on New Route 24: New 24 West to Exit 1A, (also labeled as Rt. 511 South, Morristown) onto Whippany Road. Stay in right lane. Turn right at 1st traffic light onto East Hanover Avenue. Proceed for about 1/4 mile. Entrance is on left, opposite the Morris County Library.

Directions to the Unitarian Society, Tices Lane, East Brunswick

From New Brunswick via Route 18: Take U.S. Highway 1 south, exit at Ryders Lane to East Brunswick, continue to the second light, and turn left onto Tices Lane. The Unitarian Society is the 2nd drive on the right before you go under the NJ Turnpike.

From the south via the Garden State Parkway: Take Route 18 north toward New Brunswick to Tices Lane exit (take jughandle from right lane of 18 across to Tices Lane). Follow Tices Lane until you pass under the Turnpike. The entrance is in the woods on the left just after you leave the underpass.

From the NJ Turnpike: take Exit 9 to Route 18. Take Rt 18 South to East Brunswick. On 18, turn right onto Tices Lane at the third traffic light. Follow Tices Lane until you pass under the Turnpike. The entrance is in the woods on the left just after you leave the underpass.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When the weather is dry, all sorts of interesting fungi appear at our forays. One group which dominates the table is the polypores, since these fungi usually live on wood that does not dry out as fast as the soil. One of our youngest members found two very interesting polypores on the Herrontown foray.

The first was a greenish brown spongy elliptical shape, nothing spectacular, but when it was cut open the flesh was white with blue green streaks like marble. I took a photo, put it in the refrigerator and brought it to the next foray. Susan Hopkins identified it as the blue cheese mushroom (*Tyromyces caesius*).

The second polypore had everyone stumped. It looked like white dead man's fingers covered with pores. I took the photo and dried up mushroom to NEMF. John Plischke knew what it was right off the bat. It was the imperfect stage of *Abortiporus biennis* which is called *Cerimyces terrestris*.

There were a lot of people at NEMF who knew a lot about polypores. I attended a workshop with Bill Neill, who handed around samples. The weirdest thing was something that appeared to be a brown rock about 6 inches across. This was called a sclerotium. A sclerotium is a mass of mycelia which is compacted into a ball with reserve food and soil. This allows the fungi to remain in the ground (sometimes several feet deep) until conditions are right to fruit or put out more mycelia. One such fungus is called the stone fungus (*Polyporus tuberaster*). People have put the rock-like sclerotium in water and it has fruited edible mushrooms. The sclerotium of the Tuckahoe or Indian bread mushroom (*Wolfiporia cocos*) were eaten by North American Indians. Even Hen of the woods (*Grifola frondosa*) and the Umbrella Polypore (*Polyporus umbellatus*) have sclerotia.

So don't worry if the weather is dry, there are always fascinating polypores to be found. Now all we need is for someone to write a good identification book with pictures!

You can find more about sclerotium in David Rose's article *Tuckahoe and Fungus Stone* on the web at ***www.mushroomthejournal.com/coma/nfuspr00.html*** and more about Tuckahoe (*What is Poria?*) at ***www.mdidea.com/products/new/new045.html***. You can see a picture of *Polyporus tuberaster* in David Arora's *Mushrooms Demystified*. A picture of the imperfect stage of *Abortiporus biennis* can be found at ***www.pbase.com/comafungi/image/86963176***.

We still need your help at Fungus Fest September 28th. Please contact Dorothy Smullen to volunteer.

– Nina Burghardt

NJMA CULINARY GROUP JAPANESE DINNER – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

by Jim Richards

The Culinary Group has rescheduled their Japanese BBQ that was cancelled (twice) earlier this summer for Saturday, October 11th at 6:00 PM in the Gathering Room at the Unitarian Center in East Brunswick.

The theme of the dinner is still Japanese, but we have changed the menu to reflect the change of seasons from Summer to Fall. The original menu featured lots of grilled items since we were planning on being outside and utilizing the grills available at John Horvath's home. October is a little chancey for planning an outside event, so we have moved the dinner inside. Instead of the grilled and room-temperature items that we had planned on for the earlier dates, we will be featuring foods for the cooler Autumn weather. One possibility is *Kinmedai no shigure ni* (Simmered Snapper, Autumn Rain Style). Certainly, dishes using *Matsutake* will be considered, as the Japanese regard it as the premium Fall mushroom. Some dishes that we had on the summer menu may be even more appropriate now: *Itoko Ni* (Soy-Simmered Kabocha Squash with Red Beans) And the Cold Udon noodle salad is likely to be replaced with *Tsukimi Udon* (Moon-viewing noodles in broth). Or, we might decide to make any number of great Japanese dishes.

Bob Hosh and I will get together shortly to revise the menu and send out recipes, some new. And, for those members who had been assigned recipes for the earlier dates, we might just say "make it" (Especially where the recipes have been NJMA-tested).

I do think that the Green Tea Ice Cream and the Red Bean (*Adzuki*) Ice Cream that I was planning on making for the BBQ will be cancelled, unless you say otherwise.

To sign up for the dinner, or for more information, please contact me at ***jimrich35@mac.com*** (or 908-852-1674) or Bob Hosh at ***gombasz@comcast.net*** (or 908-892-6962).

One additional topic that needs to be brought up: the changing of recipes! Sorry to be a drag (or whatever term you prefer), but Bob and I spend a good amount of time and thought (probably too much) in planning the menu and the recipes. We make sure that the dishes that will be served together are balanced in heat, spice, texture, etc., etc., etc. – *ad infinitum*! And that we will have enough oven or stovetop space available for them. When you choose to make something without coordinating with us there is a HUGE chance that it will not work.

Again, go to the contact information above.We really do want you to join us! Please call or email!

NJMAers AT KING'S GAP: THE 2008 VICTOR GAMBINO FORAY

by Terri Layton

Do you remember Dr. Tim Baroni? He's the 'Indiana Jones' of mycology who has been known to jump out of a helicopter in search of special fungi. OK, if that doesn't ring a bell, how about a guy who lights up a Cuban cigar to repel mosquitoes?

Dr. Baroni was the special guest lecturer at our annual Victor Gambino Foray (VGF) at our brand new location – Kings Gap Environmental Center (KGEC). The KGEC is a state-run facility near Harrisburg, PA in the midst of many state parks, with terrain similar to the former location of VGF, which was the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC).

The weather was perfect, food was great (yummy deserts at lunches and dinners), pillows and beds were soft and inviting. Of course, the view was spectacular. Fungi weren't bad either!

Here is a comment from Dorothy Smullen:

> "NJMA members picked a glorious weekend for good fellowship, good mushrooming, good food and excellent location at Kings Gap for the Victor Gambino Foray. Over 160 species were identified with some unusual specimens still to be examined. Our collections covered most of the mushroom groups. The review of the collection on Sunday morning was covered by many participants - John Dawson, Susan Hopkins, Dorothy Smullen, Dr. Tim Baroni, and Glenn Boyd. All attendees were listening and had questions as we went along the display tables."

Also a comment from John Dawson:

> "Baroni did an excellent job as identifier. The weather was unbelievably cooperative, and everyone pitched in to make the foray a productive learning experience. The food and lodging, of course, was excellent. We found a good variety of fungi and slime molds, though few good edibles (which was perhaps just as well, since no mycophagy sessions were planned and there was no easy way to preserve what we gathered)."

Yet another comment from Nina Burghardt:

> "We found a *Pseudohydnum gelatinosum* ,which was fairly unusual – the jelly fungus with teeth. We also found the parasitic bolete (*Xerocomus parasiticus*) which appears to be parasitic on *Scleroderma citrinum*."

At one of the forays, I was able to tag along with Tim and spend some time with him. Tim is a native of Northern California and is an avid hunter and fisherman. After he surveyed the foray area, he commented that the site would be a good place to fish for trout because of the limestone bedrock in the area. Ymmmm…trout and morels sound pretty good to me!

While I was looking for something special, I came across large broken egg shells (goose egg size) scattered around a big oak tree, and concluded that someone must have recently consumed large quantities of hard boiled eggs, but decided to scoop them up for Dorothy anyway. Tim later explained that they were not the everyday chicken eggs but rather wild turkey eggs. How about that?

By the way, Dorothy recently began asking people to collect stuff one tries not to step on … like scats. I actually have been scooping them up (not right after the rain though) for her. I wonder if 'Mr. Dorothy' knows what she's up to?

Friday evening Susan Hopkins lectured on the "History of NJMA" with lots of pictures of NJMA old timers (you know who you are) at least 30 years younger. Most had


PHOTO BY SUSAN HOPKINS


PHOTO BY DOROTHY SMULLEN

NJMA President Nina Burghardt holds one of her King's Gap finds, an ***Amanita rhopalopus****.*

a full head of hair and a wee bit thinner and we sure giggled a lot (the new members that is).

Saturday evening, Tim lectured on "Some Familiar Fungi and Some Unfamiliar Fungi," which covered a wide range of topics: the continental drifts, time period of fungi presence on/in the planet, and field identification of fungi we love to collect. Tim even shared an old family recipe for venison or rabbit stew with *Boletus bicolor*. Something for everybody!

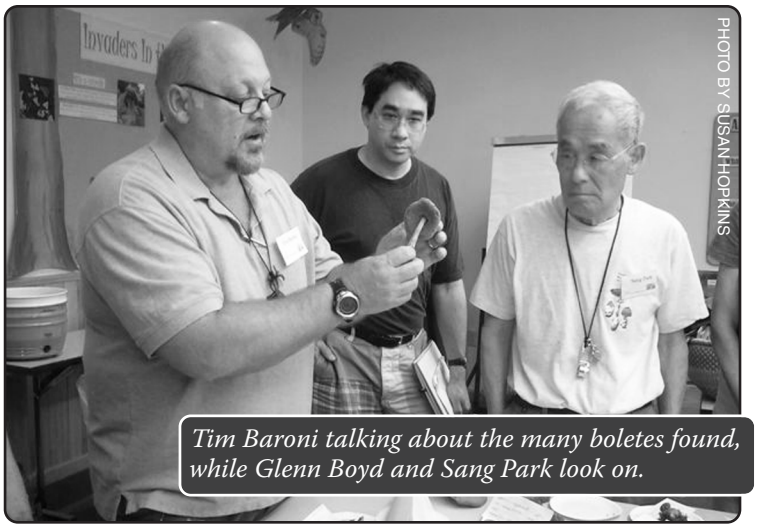
PHOTO BY SUSAN HOPKINS

Tim Baroni talking about the many boletes found, while Glenn Boyd and Sang Park look on.

SEE RELATED STORY ON PAGE 12

One of the things I really enjoy about our own weekend-long foray is that everything is low key and the group size is fairly small. There was almost a one-to-one ratio of beginners and intermediate members to the experienced amateur mycologists. I believe that there was over three centuries of combined expertise in mycology: Bob Peabody, Dorothy Smullen, Glenn Boyd, John & Cheryl Dawson, Susan Hopkins, Rhoda Roper, Sang Park, and Bob Hosh. And to top it off, Tim Baroni. Wow!

Having a small group provides an excellent opportunity for a personal training if you are "so inclined" or "not so inclined" to further your fungal knowledge. In other words, you can't just sneak out when you've had enough of fungus talk because these driven mycologists will sorely miss your presence. The short and the long of it is that you end up learning something…like it or not!

A vicious bit of gossip from a reliable source reported that 'Mr. Dorothy' (*a.k.a.* Bill Smullen) was seen repeatedly lurking around the fungi tables without his golf clubs.
Many members complimented me for doing a fine job of coordinating the event, but the real kudos go to Cathy Chomley-Jones from EPM/NJMA for finding and sharing the KGEC with us. Many thanks go to the King's Gap staff, Sandy, Kim, Scott, Terry, Cathy, Linda, Sue, and Phoebe, who were very professional, pleasant and accommodating. A special thanks goes to a Ranger Joe Raber, who found my credit card on the mansion ground and returned the card to me without dashing off to Cabalas first.

Also a big special thanks goes to Dr. Glenn Boyd for making it possible for Tim to come and visit us. You are truly generous!

That's enough thanks – I am getting nauseous from all this sweetness. But I think the most important thanks goes to all attendees for being such polite and responsible guests at the mansion and keeping the ruckus down to a minimum at our social hour. You all received sincere compliments from the staff. Kudos to everyone.

The weekend was certainly a great way to feed your tummy, rest your soul, and fill your head with knowledge of fungi. I hope you all come back next year.

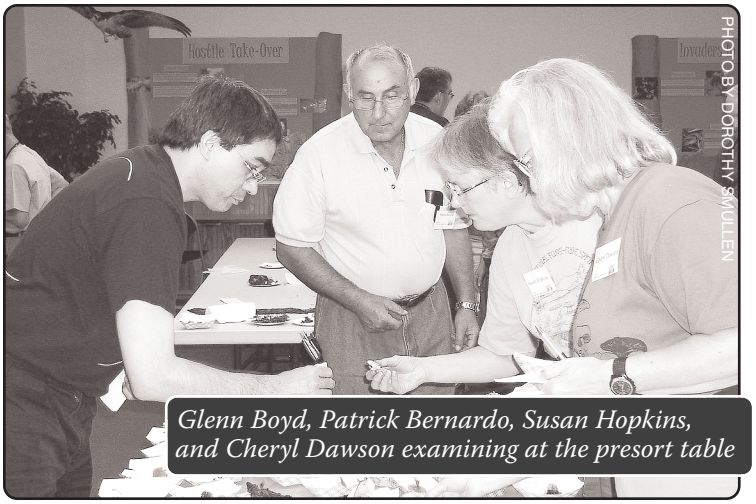
PHOTO BY DOROTHY SMULLEN

Glenn Boyd, Patrick Bernardo, Susan Hopkins, and Cheryl Dawson examining at the presort table

If you weren't there…

2008 SAMUEL RISTICH FORAY REPORT

by Gene Yetter

The 2008 Northeastern Mycological Foray was held at Connecticut College in New London, CT, the weekend of July 31 to August 3. The number of species recorded from more than a dozen wooded sites and confirmed as of August 10 was 330, with 26 new species names being added to the 32-year NEMF database. The seven page species list is posted at ***www.nemfdata.org***.

Of the total number of species recorded, 32 names are Amanitas. There are probably two reasons why nearly 10% of the collection list are of the single genus Amanita. One is that Amanitas are very common in mid-summer (July, early August), when their mycorrhizal hosts are experiencing peak photosynthesis and pumping glucose into root systems and, by association, feeding the fungal community. But the other reason would be that Rod Tulloss, well-known for his study of the group over many years, was on hand to help with identifications. Rod chalked up 22 Amanita identifications, which is a lot considering these determinations often require careful microscopy.

Other major contributors to the species list included René Lebeuf, John Plischke, Bill Roody, Walt Sturgeon, and Dorothy Smullen. Walt and John actually tied with credit for 65 first identifications each. Those 65 identifications cover many genera, not just one, as with Rod's count.

Collections recorded included some mushrooms known from the southern U.S. such as *Ganoderma curtisii*, *Amanita canescens*, *Amanita subsolitaria* and *Strobilomyces dryophilus*. It's tempting to think of the appearance of southern species in the Northeast as a consequence of "global warming". That may be partly true, however, eastern Connecticut habitats have a lot in common with many locations along the East Coast from Florida to Cape Cod and that would also account for the southern visitors.

NJMA member Bob Hosh collected a southern species. He writes, "I photographed two views of *Amanita canescens*, a member of the genus Amanita, which contains some of the most dangerous and poisonous mushrooms. I found the specimen at Bluff Point State Park. It caused a bit of a stir among the professional mycologists as it rarely appears as far north as New Jersey and Long Island, and here it was in Connecticut. When I found it, it was a young mushroom, the cap still unexpanded, as in my *in situ* photo (see page 7). The second frame shows the underside of the cap with the gills still covered by a protective partial veil. The veil later detaches from the edge of the cap and forms a ring around the stalk. Note also the pink tones and staining of the stem. All in all, this was an interesting find."

Included in the accompanying pictures is a frame by John Plischke showing a fungus that grows on spiders (see page 7). The species is unknown, but it is in the genus Gibellula. The NEMF master list has only one prior record of a Gibellula, epithet leiopus, recorded in the year 2000 at the Stowe foray, also in Connecticut.

The New Jersey club's Sang Park focuses his studies on Myxomycetes, not every mycophile's cup of tea because of difficult techniques involved in species determination. Sang indentified two species in that area, *Lindbladia tubulina* and *Physarella cf. Oblonga*, the latter being new to the master list.

As recordkeeper, I see the taxonomic controversies, the "discussions" regarding which authority in the mycological literature is to be followed in determining a name. At least two such situations arose this year. First, there are *Lycoperdon marginatum* and *L. curtisii*. Both species were recognized by different identifiers. In the mycological literature, some authors say there is no difference between the two, while others claim there is – principally in the way the peridium breaks up or doesn't break up upon maturity.

Another such situation involves *Polyporus elegans* and *P. varius*. The NEMF master list shows records of both of these species over the years – often in the same year! At New London, Serge Audet was able to cite a journal article in which the author claimed mating studies between the typical specimens of both species suggest they are the same, and that the primary name should be *P. varius*. We will continue to keep both names in the database, but eventually we may mark one or the other of them in each pair as "historical"; at that point we will favor the other name as "current."

As usual for the annual "Northeast," the weekend was not entirely about collecting fungi, but also featured instructive classroom programs and evening presentations by speakers including Roger Phillips, author of *The Mushrooms of North America*; Tom Volk, professor at the University of Wisconsin in Madison; Gary Lincoff, author of the *Audubon Field Guide to North American Mushrooms*; and others.

Also, some historic fungal art was on exhibit. The halls outside the display area hung with beautiful antique prints and classic images of different fungal species. Jean-Pierre and Jacqueline Dion, members of the Cercle de Mycologues de Quebec, showed two 1791 prints by Pierre Bulliard, an important French mycologist. A few dozen old prints were exhibited by Connie Borodenko who collected them over 30 years. Connie's prints date from 1845 through the 1870s. They were originally bound in copies of a book by Elias Fries, the "father of modern mycology." Fries was not an artist. To produce the iconic fungal images, he directed professional artists in their creation.

(more on next page)

Memorable at this year's NEMF, NJMA's Dorothy Smullen noted, were tributes to Ray Fatto, Ed Bosman and Sam Ristich, three key individuals, now deceased, who were involved not only in the formation and running of the New Jersey Mycological Association (Ray), the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society (Ed), and the Maine Mycological Society (Sam), but who also were involved in organizing and guiding the Northeast foray since its inception in 1976.

I spoke about Ray, unfortunately forgetting to make the one major point that I wanted to express above all: that over the years, Ray contributed a large share of Russula records in the NEMF database, as well as records of many other species. How could I forget that? But I did. Roz Lowen spoke about Ed Bosman and Sandy Sheine memorialized Sam Ristich. That was on Thursday night. On Saturday evening, Gary Lincoff recalled his many years of contact with Sam, and closed his presentation showing a video made by Sam's daughter, Ruthie, of her father in some of his collecting and teaching activities with the Maine Mushroom Society.

Dorothy joked, "I knew Sam was watching when, on the first foray on Friday morning, I found one of his "WOWEE! -- HOLY COW!" Siamese Russulas with a small upside-down segment of the cap (i.e., gills on top of the cap)."

Always brilliant speaking about fungi, Tom Volk on Saturday evening presented a talk entitled "Wood Decay, Good Decay?"

"Tom introduced us to the word *exo-enzymes*," Dorothy said. "Animals ingest, then digest. Fungi digest outside; then ingest. We heard about brownrot fungi and whiterot fungi. The future importance of exo-enzymes lies in biopulping of paper, and bioremediation in the breakdown of plastics by fungi, even highly indestructible phenolic resins like Bakelite, etc. This was Tom's message."

A special guest at the foray this year was a teenager from North Carolina, Todd Elliott, aged 15, whose participation was supported by a NEMF scholarship set up a few years ago in honor of deceased University of Maine mycologist Richard Homola. Todd surprised everyone at the display and sorting tables with his very mature grasp of mycology. He identified specimens that would stump a lot of older veteran amateur collectors, among them *Cordyceps michiganensis*, a fungus that grows on spiders. New to the NEMF master list, this collection excited John Plischke, who went to work photographing it.

During the Saturday evening assembly, Todd also presented a rousing bluegrass fiddle performance, accompanying himself in a funny song of his own composition about, you guessed it, mushrooms!

The Connecticut College venue was a great site for the foray, with display and work area, dormitory, and dining hall – all in close proximity. Most field trip sites were a short ride from the campus. The historic campus is splendid, with vast lawns and a mixture of classic stone buildings and modern architecture.

The college maintains a 750-acre arboretum adjacent to the campus, featuring a great variety of native and foreign trees, shrubbery, and plants, all well-marked for study and looking rather healthy. Anyone spending a few days wandering through the Connecticut College arboretum would be seeing and potentially learning many vascular species. It's not hard to imagine a diverse flush of mushrooms there under good weather conditions (i.e. heavy rain distributed over a few weeks), although on foray weekend, collecting of fungi in the arboretum seemed limited.

Besides walks in the arboretum, field trips went out to several state parks (Bluff Point, Hopeville Pond, Devils Hopyard) and state forests (Nehantic, Patchaug).

On Sunday morning, final day of the foray, a group of New Jerseyites sat around the breakfast table. Among them was a former active member of the NJMA, Anna Gerenday, who came all the way from Wisconsin to attend the Northeast. She said she has always liked the Northeast because, it seems that expert identifiers and rank amateurs seem to socialize warmly and work well together, unlike the atmosphere at some other regional forays.

In that regard, NJMA's Hosh commented on how he enjoyed seeing Anna again and mixing with other NEMF veterans, Terry Stoleson and the Sheines, Sandy and Jerry. "They all remembered me for my cooking!" Bob said.

Rhoda Roper seemed to speak for the group in her sentiment about the foray: "There was always lots of help identifying at the presort tables. Even though it

(continued on page 10)

WHO'S IN A NAME?
Amanita cokeri

by John Dawson (part 9 of a series)

Amanita cokeri (E.J. Gilbert & Kühner) E.J. Gilbert is a mushroom familiar to most NJMA members, often collected on club forays. It is among the more than twenty fungal species (including two in the zygomycete genus *Cokeromyces*) and five species of higher plants that are named after the distinguished botanist, mycologist, conservationist and landscape designer William Chambers Coker. The range of fungi bearing his eponym is indicative of the breadth of his scholarship: In addition to two *Amanitas*, they include a *Boletus*, two coral fungi (a *Clavariadelphus* and a *Ramaria*), a *Clitocybe*, a jelly fungus (*Exidia*), a *Hygrophorus*, a *Lactarius*, a puffball (*Lycoperdon*), a polypore (Phellodon) and a false truffle (*Rhizopogon*).

Like Henry William Ravenel, profiled earlier in this series, Coker was a southern gentleman, who was born in South Carolina (at Hartsville in 1872) and graduated (in 1894) from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina). The fourth of seven surviving children in a family of prominence and means, he grew up during the years of Reconstruction. His father, Major James Lide Coker, was a Confederate war veteran who had been gravely wounded at the Battle of Lookout Mountain, and who, prior to the Civil War, had studied for a year at Harvard under the tutelage of Asa Gray and Louis Agassiz — an experience that served both to enliven his interest in natural history and to reinforce his belief in the value of education[1]. In turn, he cultivated those attitudes in his children.

Following his graduation from college, W. C. Coker went to work at the Atlantic National Bank in Wilmington, North Carolina. After only two years, aged 24, he became second vice president. A year later, however, he forsook a promising career in banking and, with the support of his family, went off to Baltimore to pursue a doctorate in botany at Johns Hopkins University. His dissertation of 1901 on seed development in bald cypress, published two years later in the *Botanical Gazette*, was the first work to appear in print from the Johns Hopkins Botanical Laboratory.

Coker spent the academic year 1901-02 in Germany as a postdoctoral student at the University of Bonn, and upon his return to the United States was appointed as the first professor of botany at the University of North Carolina. He remained at Chapel Hill for the rest of his life: He became a full professor there in 1908, married in 1934 (at age 62) the daughter of the University president who had hired him, retired in 1945 as Kenan Professor of Botany, Emeritus, and died in 1953 at the age of 80.

Coker was a prolific researcher and author. A bibliography of his works drawn up by his students J. N. Couch and Velma D. Mathews for their obituary memoir of him in *Mycologia*[2] lists 136 publications, including two books on trees (one on those of North Carolina, the other on those of the southeastern states) and several major monographs on genera of fleshy fungi (*The Amanitas of the Eastern United States* [1917]; *The Lactarias of North Carolina* [1918]; *The Collybias of North Carolina* [1921], *The Laccarias and Clitocybes of North Carolina*, and *The Mycenas of North Carolina* [1921, 1922, and 1924, respectively], all co-authored with H. C. Beardslee; *The Clavarias of the United States and Canada* [1923]; *The Gasteromycetes of the Eastern United States and Canada* [with J.N. Couch, 1923]; *The Boletaceae of North Carolina* [with A.H. Beers, 1943]; and *The Stipitate Hydnums of the Eastern United States* [also with Beers, 1951]), in addition to what is regarded as his most influential work, *The Saproleginaceae* [1923], which stimulated much subsequent work on aquatic fungi.

The most detailed source of information on Coker's life and legacy is the recently published *Essays on William Chambers Coker, Passionate Botanist*[3], whose author, Mary Coker Joslin, is a niece of Coker who married an uncle of Coker's wife. (Ponder that remarkable consanguinity for a while.) It stresses not only his mycological work, but his roles as a landscape designer (for the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as well as for Coker College and for numerous public school grounds in North Carolina); as a founder of both the herbarium at the University of North Carolina and the arboretum there; as one of the incorporators of the University of North Carolina Press; as the

[1] In Hartsville, he later helped to establish a high school, which in 1908 became Coker College.

[2] vol. 46 (1954), pp. 372-383.

[3] University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library and the Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc., 2003.

editor from 1904-45 of the *Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society*; as a trustee, benefactor and Director of the Highlands Museum and Biological Laboratory, where he worked every summer from 1928 until 1943; and as a devoted teacher and mentor for numerous students who went on to become prominent figures in botany and mycology. In Joslin's words, "At the present moment, when we are confronting the appalling loss of much of the floral opulence of the Carolinas and of our national and worldwide plant resources, it is timely to remember W. C. Coker's research in botany, his field studies, his contribution to our landscapes and gardens, and his passionate efforts to ... preserve ... precious areas of environmental value. His life work sounds a tocsin poignantly reminding us of the current crisis of our diminishing natural heritage."


PHOTO BY RHODA ROPER

Mary Anne Carletta, former NJMA secretary, and Jack Barnett, former NJMA president, came for a visit from their distant home.

NEMF RISTICH FORAY 2008

(continued from page 6)

seemed there weren't a lot of mushrooms at some field trip sites, a lot of specimens showed up on the tables. The spirit, as always, was warm and everyone seemed so happy to be there, reunited with their fellow fungiphiles. I thought the facility was very comfortable and pleasant, and the food decent. I loved having an air conditioned room to myself."

So, if you are member of the New Jersey Mycological Association and you missed this year's NEMF foray, there's always next year. In 2009, the annual Northeastern Mycological Foray will be held at Eastham, MA, a municipality on Cape Cod.


PHOTO BY RHODA ROPER

Glenn Boyd and Rod Tulloss begin the sort through specimens collected at Meadow Woods

BITS AND PIECES
SCENES FROM NJMA FORAYS

Dorothy Smullen making an ID point to King's Gap attendees


PHOTO BY SUSAN HOPKINS

BITS AND PIECES
SCENES FROM NJMA FORAYS


PHOTO BY JIM RICHARDS

Members at the Stephens ID table

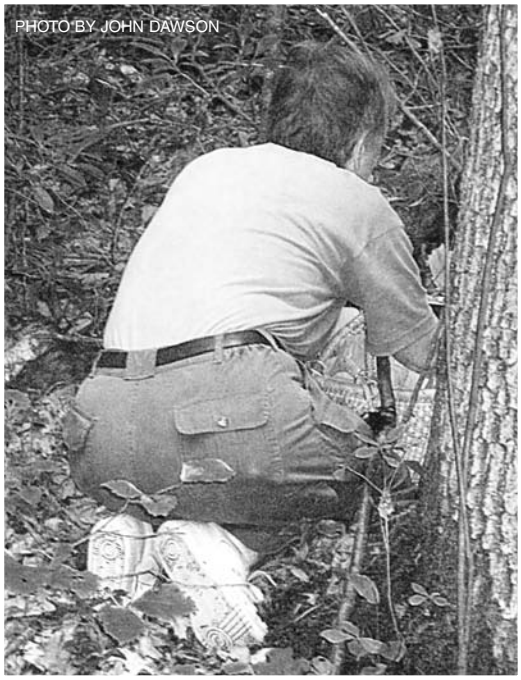
PHOTO BY JOHN DAWSON

One of our intrepid dye mushroom hunters, Susan Hopkins, at King's Gap


PHOTO BY RHODA ROPER

◄ Bob Hosh takes a rest at Meadow Woods


PHOTO BY SUSAN HOPKINS

Cheryl and John Dawson, Rhoda Roper, and Bill Smullen after a fine meal at King's Gap


PHOTO BY JOHN DAWSON

Cortinarius glaucopus *found by John Dawson at King's Gap*

MORE ON THE KING'S GAP FORAY AND BEING WITH TIM BARONI

by Glenn Boyd

The King's Gap weekend was an exceptional opportunity to learn new mushrooms, and to learn old mushrooms better. Prof. Tim Baroni, a renowned expert in both Entolomataceae and Boletes, worked the tables diligently over the course of the weekend. Anyone opting to stand by his side as he eagerly reviewed the collections was treated to a wealth of information on the characteristics of a wide range of species and genera, as well as an infectious excitement when he found new or unusual species.

I decided early on to stick near Tim like the yellow floccules on the stipe base of *Boletus auriporus* (that's a good way to distinguish it from *B. innixis*, as Tim pointed out). There were many little Entoloma/Marasmius/Collybioid mushrooms that elicited interested from Tim, but the ones that stand out for me are closer to my current interests – *Russula*, *Amanita*, and Boletes.

Tim started contributing to our field IDs almost immediately upon arriving Friday evening. A group of NJMAers had discussed a *Tylopilous* for some time, eventually deciding that it was not *T. plumboviolaceous*, but more likely *T. violatinctus*. Tim was keenly interested in the mushroom when he saw it. He agreed it was not *T. plumboviolaceous*, but neither did it look right for *T. violatinctus*. He should know, since he helped describe it. He had never seen a bolete like that, and ended up drying it and taking it home. So we had something new without even realizing it!

Saturday morning found us examining a white *Leccinum* with a wrinkly cap. At first, Tim thought it might be *L. holopus*. This was something I thought I could check, because *L. holopus* has a filamentous cap cuticle (long threads under the microscope), whereas the similar *L. albellum* has a cellular cap (fat round cells). Tim right away decided the specimen must actually be *L. albellum*, because mushrooms with wrinkled caps are typically cellular. I had learned that cellular caps sometimes glisten under a 10x lens, but did not know that field character. When I checked under the microscope, of course Tim was right. For me the best thing was not identifying the *L. albellum*, but rather the new field character learned.

We had a number of uncommon Amanitas in the Amidella section of the genus. These species typically have fat volval sacks at the base of the stipe, and are whitish, sometimes bruising a bit reddish. One had a strong, persistent ring, which was very unusual in this group. None of us could figure that one out (time to email Rod Tulloss the photo).

The most exciting find of the foray for me was a tiny white mushroom which Tim picked. It was only half an inch tall, and maybe a third of an inch across. I might have thought it was a little *Omphalina* if the gills had been decurrent. Tim suggested I try to determine it to genus microscopically, but there were so many other interesting things around that I put it lower down in my queue. Eventually, Tim suggested I check the spores in Melzer's, because he had seen a *Russula* that looked very similar in the Dominican Republic. One of the key characters was a pure white stipe that tapered to a point. The idea that this might be a *Russula* blew my mind. I'd never seen a *Russula* remotely similar to it. Sure enough, when we looked at the spores under the microscope, they showed the characteristic black lines and warts. It really was a *Russula*! Sadly, with only one specimen, it is not really possible to write up a new species. Might we find another one next year?

Two more finds are worth mentioning. The first day, someone brought in *Boletellus russelii*, whose stipe is incredibly deeply reticulated (the books call it "lacerated"). Sue Hopkins and I had seen many of them at Tom Volk's mushroom class in Maine the prior week, but it is rarely found in NJ. Curiously, Jim Barg had sent me a photo of one he'd found just a few days earlier. The other mushroom was a polypore that looked a bit like an unusual rosette of *Trametes versicolor*, but whose pores ran all the way down the stipe to the base. Microscopically, it resembles a *Trametes*, in that it has thick-walled "skeletal" and "binding" hyphae as well as thin-walled generative hyphae with clamps. Dorothy Smullen and I took samples home, but so far we have no answers.

PHOTO BY SUSAN HOPKINS

NJMA PHOTO CONTEST 2008

Send us your best shots! DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: **NOVEMBER 2, 2008**

Last year's NJMA photo contest was a big hit, and this year, we'd like to see even more participation! If you haven't already started doing so, get your photos together *now* and don't miss the deadline. Our awards this year are great (see below), plus you'll receive heaps of praise from your fellow NJMA members. Also, your winning photos will be put into rotation on the NJMA website and they'll become a permanent part of the NJMA Photo Library.

After speaking with a number of members last year, we are aware that many of you are not technically savvy enough to submit your digital images without assistance. If you need technical assistance to compile your digital–format photos for entry, contact Jim Barg at jimbarg@bssmedia.com or call him at 908-362-7101.

The judge for this year's photo contest will be announced on our website *(www.njmyco.org)* within the next few weeks.

ENTRY CATEGORIES AND DIVISIONS

For all entries, the main considerations in judging will be composition, clarity, lighting, and all the other factors and skills that make for a good picture, whether by using a digital or film camera or a scanner. Entries will be accepted in three categories in two divisions (Novice or Advanced), for a total of six first-place awards :

TECHNICAL *(Divisions: **Novice** and **Advanced**)*
The purpose of entries in this category is to aid in the identification of fungi. The subjects may be photographed *in situ* or removed to a more photographically appropriate setting. Photos through the microscope are included in this category, as well. To aid the judge in this division, we will appoint an experienced member to offer comments as to how well the photo illustrates some particular aspect of the fungus. *(Advanced Division entries will require that an exact ID by scientific name be attached.)*

PICTORIAL *(Divisions: **Novice** and **Advanced**)*
The entries in this category should be more concerned with pictorial beauty and aesthetics. It is expected that most entries will be taken *in situ* to illustrate the fungus and its surroundings. *(Advanced Division entries will require that an exact ID by scientific name be attached.)*

ACTIVITY *(Divisions: **Novice** and **Advanced**)*
The entries in this category should depict either people working (or playing) with mushrooms, or the results of this work or play. This category is for photos of club or regional events, forays, and gatherings (NJMA, NEMF, NAMA, etc.), or of people cooking mushrooms (or the dishes prepared), use of a mushroom theme as part of a craft project and the finished objects...basically, anything that is *not* recognized as a mushroom photograph.

Here is a summary of the categories and divisions in which prizes will be awarded (please note the boldface initials, for use when submitting):

NOVICE DIVISION	**A**DVANCED DIVISION
Technical	**T**echnical
Pictorial	**P**ictorial
Activity	**A**ctivity

AWARDS

BEST IN SHOW (chosen from all entries): $**50.00** NJMA gift certificate
FIRST PLACE in each division of each category (six prizes total): $**25.00** NJMA gift certificate
SECOND PLACE and **HONORABLE MENTION** will be given in each division of each category.
As always, winners' photos will become part of the permanent photo collection of NJMA. (We will make copies of slides and return your originals. Digital photos will not be returned.) We also reserve the right to publish them in our newsletter and other NJMA publications with due credit.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR CONTEST RULES AND HOW TO ENTER

NJMA 2008 PHOTO CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is open to all NJMA members.

2. The following types of contestants may ***only*** enter into the Advanced Division: (a) Professional photographers or those who make any type of income with their photographs, and (b) Anyone who has won First Place in the NJMA Photo Contest three times over the past five years.

3. All entries must be made either by electronic file (.jpg or .tif) in their original resolution or on color transparencies (slides). If you have a print that you wish to enter into the contest, *you* must have it scanned and converted to a digital .jpg or .tif file. (Most copy centers now have good quality scanning services and can provide you with these file formats. We recommend scanning at 300 dpi resolution at an image size of roughly 8"x10") All judging will be done with projected images. If you're not sure how to prepare your digital files for submission, please call Jim Barg at 908-362-7101 for technical assistance.

4. For slides, be sure to mark each slide with a projection dot at the lower left corner of the mount when viewed right-side-up out of the projector. Also label each slide on the dot side with your initials, division initial, category initial, and your photo number (in that order). For example, if you are entering into the Novice Division-Technical category, and your name is John Doe, the entry code on your first slide should read JD-NT-1.

5. For digital image files, use the same convention for naming as for slides, being sure to include the file suffix .jpg or .tif as well. Using the previous example, you'd name your file JD-NT-1.jpg or JD-NT-1.tif.

6. Fill out the entry form below, recording your entries using this code and also providing the genus or full scientific name of the mushroom(s) included in the photo. (This does not apply to entries in the Activity Division categories.) We suggest that you make a photocopy of the entry form and keep it for yourself for future reference.

7. Electronic images should be submitted on optical media such as CD-R or DVD-R. Do not email your entries. (Floppy discs, which had been accepted in the past, are no longer acceptable.)

8. If you do any digital manipulation to your photo, you MUST provide us with the original file or print to allow us to see the manipulation you did. Cropping, color correction, contrast and brightness adjustment, dust and scratch removal, grain reduction, and sharpening are acceptable forms of digital manipulation. Such digitally-manipulated photos will not be considered for judging if we do not receive your original. If you intentionally add to, subtract, or move any element or object that's in the original photograph, your entries will be disqualified.

9. Slides may be cropped using opaque tape to mask out the area you wish to hide.

10. Entries into the Advanced Divisions of the Technical or Pictorial categories *must* be provided with an accurate identification to genus and species. Your Advanced Division entries will be disqualified if your ID is incorrect. It is suggested that novice entries include a good and reasonable attempt at identification to genus (we will try to correct you if you're wrong, but you won't be disqualified).

11. Entries are limited to 12 photos per contestant, including those which may be disallowed for lack of ID (if submitting into Advanced) or improper or non-permitted forms of digital manipulation.

12. Current members of the Photo Contest Committee may not enter into this contest.

13. By submitting to this contest, you grant NJMA the right to reproduce or publish your photos (without compensation, but with due credit) in the club newsletter, on the NJMA website, on promotional posters, or in any publication which NJMA provides to its membership or prospective members.

SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRIES

Please be sure your entries are labeled properly (see Rules, above) and enclose them *with your entry form* and mail or deliver them to:

Jim Barg
NJMA 2008 Photo Contest
220 Millbrook Road
Hardwick, NJ 07825-9658

THE NJMA 2008 PHOTO CONTEST COMMITTEE

This year's Photo Contest categories, rules, and prizes were determined by a committee consisting of Jim Barg and Jim Richards. The committee appreciates hearing your comments, which will help us to make this contest even better the next time around. Our judge will be assisted in the Technical categories and species identification (in the Advanced division) will be by veteran NJMA member Glenn Boyd.

NJMA PHOTO CONTEST 2008

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

(Please fill out and make a copy for your records.)

NAME OF ENTRANT _____

ADDRESS LINE 1 _____

ADDRESS LINE 2 _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (DAY) _____ TELEPHONE (EVENING) _____

ENTRY NUMBER	ENTRY CODE or FILE NAME *(see items 4 and 5 in Rules)*	DIVISION *(check one per entry)*	CATEGORY *(check one per entry)*	ID (GENUS & SPECIES) *(required for Advanced Division entries)*
1		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
2		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
3		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
4		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
5		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
6		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
7		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
8		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
9		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
10		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
11		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	
12		❏ NOVICE ❏ ADVANCED	❏ TECHNICAL ❏ PICTORIAL ❏ ACTIVITY	

Please remember that photos submitted on digital media will not be returned.
Also remember that, if you digitally manipulated or retouched your entry, you must enclose the original as well!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS AT THE CLOSE OF OUR NOVEMBER 2, 2008 MEETING

NJMA NEWS
c/o Susan Hopkins
P.O. Box 291
Oldwick, New Jersey 08858

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NJMA is a non-profit organization whose aims are to provide a means for sharing ideas, experiences, knowledge, and common interests regarding fungi, and to furnish mycological information and educational materials to those who wish to increase their knowledge about mushrooms.

In this issue:

Cantharellus cinnabarinus
Cinnabar Red Chanterelle

Diminutive in size and usually found growing in large numbers, this late summer mushroom is actually a very good edible – provided that you have the patience to collect enough for a meal! The caps are about one-half to one inch in diameter, and they are only about an inch tall. They are a firey orange-red color and have blunt-edged ridges underneath, *not* true (sharp-edged) gills. Having a slightly peppery flavor, it holds its color even after cooking.

PHOTO BY JIM BARG