

# NJMA NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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Vice-President - Luke Smithson  
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## NJMA NEWS

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## NJMA EVENTS HOTLINE

**908-227-0872** for information on  
NJMA events or cancellations due to  
bad weather. It is **NOT** for general  
inquiries or to contact officers!



*Tylopilus ferrugineus*

PHOTO BY JIM BARG

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since our last newsletter went to press, we have enjoyed a succession of opportunities to collect mushrooms and meet other people who are curious about these fascinating organisms. At this writing, we have held public forays at seven locations ranging from Stokes State Forest in Sussex County to State Line Lookout on the Palisades in Bergen County to Rancocas State Park in Burlington County. In addition NJMA members have attended our Victor Gambino Foray in North Bangor, PA near the Delaware Water Gap, as well as the Northeastern Mycological Foray in Fitchburg, MA. I would like to offer some personal observations about three of these events.

The Victor Gambino Foray was held at Kirkridge Retreat Center near the Appalachian Trail south of the Delaware Water Gap. The facilities were comfortable and the food was very good. Participants were a mix of newcomers and old timers. Rain was scarce through most of June and conditions were unusually dry. But we found enough fungi along stream beds and swampy areas to keep the identifiers fully occupied. In the end, our species list included more than 80 taxa, well above average for the 35+ years we have held the Victor Gambino Foray.

There was lots to see from the ridge near our lodge with hang gliders in the late afternoon and beautiful sunsets. One couple went for a late afternoon walk on the Appalachian Trail, and ended up several hours later and more than five miles away in the village of Delaware Water Gap. I was very envious because I had hoped to collect along the AT but never got to do it. They reported very few mushrooms along the trail.

Dave Wasilewski, our chief mycologist, gave an engaging presentation about how he uses the *Mushroom Observer* website to learn new mushrooms and share his knowledge with a worldwide network of mushroomers interested in identification. Igor Safonov gave a talk on how to assign Amanitas to Sections, which helps narrow the search for a species name. Jim Barg gave a late afternoon workshop on photographing fungi in the field. Thanks so much to Liz Broderick for selecting the site and arranging the Victor Gambino foray and to all the presenters and participants for making it so much fun.

Our foray at the Ted Stiles Preserve at Baldpate was held in conjunction with the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space, which assists Mercer County Parks in caring for the preserve. This location occupies more than 10,000 acres, with diverse habitats that likely harbor a rich mycoflora. We carpooled to three areas with fairly different habitats within the preserve. Limited parking kept the groups small, so it was easy to

stay together in the woods and examine interesting finds as a group.

Back at the central meeting point two hours later, a large group sorted and identified the mushrooms. Over 90 species were identified. The great majority was found at just one of the three locations, underscoring the diversity of the preserve. This event was the kick-off of what we hope will be an ongoing effort to assist FOHVOS in a systematic survey of the fungi at Ted Stiles preserve. We hope repeated visits will generate enough collections to document the variety. If you might want to help with collecting and be informed about future visits, please contact Patricia McNaught ([pjmчнаught@gmail.com](mailto:pjmчнаught@gmail.com)), coordinator of our Ted Stiles Survey, to receive emails announcing dates and details of collecting trips.

Finally, a word about the Northeastern Mycological Federation (NEMF) Sam Ristich Foray. NEMF includes 20 clubs from the area extending from Pennsylvania to Maine in the U.S. and Quebec Province in Canada. NEMF's Sam Ristich Foray is hosted each year by different clubs in the region. This year, NEMF was held in Fitchburg, Massachusetts and was hosted by the Boston Mycological Association. Conditions this year have been unusually dry for that area. One was asked only half-jokingly why we were leaving central New Jersey where we have been enjoying unusually varied fruitings of fungi for the desert conditions in eastern Massachusetts. It was a reasonable question.

But the trip was definitely worth it. NEMF is organized around a series of forays to nearby locations and lectures and workshops on topics of interest. Collection numbers were down and much of what was collected was in poor shape. I attended one all-day foray, and spent the second day attending lectures. The foray was to a preserve with several streams culminating in a waterfall partway down a deep ravine. The trail down into the ravine crossed a number of small streams. The terrain was such that we could leave the trail and follow the streams down the hill. Still, this produced a surprising number of fresh fungi, and it was fun to look at them with experts.

Dr. David Hibbett, a professor at Clark University and a

### WELCOME TO THE ONLINE EDITION OF NJMA NEWS

For the great majority of you who are viewing the online PDF of this newsletter, please note that **most web links and email addresses are clickable**. Clicking on a **blue** web or email address will launch your web browser and take you to the specified page or open your email software so you can send an instant email. Just look for the "click finger" when you hover your mouse over these items.

lead researcher in the analysis of fungal genetic relationships using DNA analysis, gave one of the most interesting reports on scientific research that I have heard. Dr. Hibbett and his colleagues have reported that the evolution of wood decay fungi over many millennia may have been responsible for the earth's coal deposits. They have found that brown-rot fungi emerged very early in the evolution of fungi near the beginning of the carboniferous period. White-rot fungi emerged later at about the time coal formation ended.

What is the connection between wood-rot fungi and coal formation? Our woods today are full of fungi that decompose wood. Fungi are unique in their ability to produce enzymes that dissolve lignin and cellulose. These compounds give wood its unique, hard yet flexible structure. Brown-rot fungi remove cellulose from the wood leaving the lignin. Wood subject to brown rot shows brown discoloration and shrinks into solid cubical pieces. White rot fungi have developed the capacity to dissolve cellulose as well as lignin. This more efficient mechanism for extracting energy from dead wood leaves a moist, soft and spongy pile rather than cubical pieces of lignin. Essentially, the early brown rotters left lignin chips to be formed into coal by millennia of pressure from rock that formed over the decaying trees. Over millennia, some brown rot fungi evolved into more efficient white rotters, as they developed the ability to dissolve lignin as well as cellulose. The carboniferous period ended because the more efficient and numerous white rotters became dominant and left no "lignin blocks" from which coal could be formed.

Dr. Hibbett emphasized that this explanation for how coal formed is controversial and that other factors may be at work. His description of the controversies around this finding was fascinating. I have long had the impression that mycology is the "Rodney Dangerfield" of biological sciences: Compared to other biological sciences, research on fungi seems to be way underfunded compared to the importance of these organisms and the depth of our ignorance about them. Dr. Hibbett's description of his research and its reception from the scientific community strengthened this impression.

By the time you read this, we will be looking forward to Fungus Fest on September 25<sup>th</sup> and the fall collecting season that will continue through the end of October. Fungus Fest encompasses all of NJMA's diverse activities. If you have been on a foray or participated in any of our events, and would enjoy talking to people about fungi, we need you. Please contact Liz Broderick ([medhead72@gmail.com](mailto:medhead72@gmail.com)) to volunteer, or call me and I will put you in touch with Liz.

In closing, I would like to thank Janeen Pisciotta for her efforts to make the public aware of Fungus Fest. Janeen arranged for an interview of two NJMA members with Mike McGruff on his National Public Radio program "You Bet Your Garden". Luke Smithson and I recorded

an interview with Mike in early August at the WHYI studios in Philadelphia. The discussion covered a broad range of NJMA activities, and we had several opportunities to talk about Fungus Fest. Mike said the interview would probably air shortly before Fungus Fest on Saturday, September 10 or 17. Please check the WHYI website if you are interested. You can listen to the show online if you live beyond the reach of WHYI or the public radio stations in the south of New Jersey.

I look forward to seeing you at Fungus Fest or one of the fall forays.

– *John Burghardt*  
*President, New Jersey Mycological Association*  
609-651-2728

Visit the NJMA Discussion Group  facebook  
<http://tinyurl.com/jjualgz>

**Got a mushroom story to tell?**  
Share your experience with fellow mushroomers!  
**tell it here!**  
Send your articles and photos to [njmaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:njmaeditor@gmail.com)

## CANDIDATES FOR NJMA ELECTION 2016

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the slate of candidates for the 2017 year:

- Dorothy Smullen** (Trustee; five year term)
- John Burghardt** (President)
- Luke Smithson** (Vice President)
- Igor Safonov** (Treasurer)
- Sharon Sterling** (Secretary) (all one year terms)

The election will take place at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, and is open to all NJMA voting members. A voting member is one who has been a member for at least one year. Members who joined before November 13, 2015 are eligible to vote this year. There are proxy ballots for those who cannot attend. If you wish to run for any position you need to fill out a petition with thirty voting member signatures and submit it by October 14, 2016. Both forms can be obtained from the Nominating Committee chairperson, Nina Burghardt, ([jnburghardt@verizon.net](mailto:jnburghardt@verizon.net)).

The NJMA Nominating Committee consists of Nina Burghardt, Patricia McNaught, and Mike Rubin. 

## “IS THIS EDIBLE?”

by Betty M. Wise

“Is this Edible?” This is often heard at foray and outreach events. It usually follows the “What is this?” question. Some members and non-members alike are only interested in what is edible, and the very specific (*i.e.* choice) selection they want to cook for dinner. They may overlook all other fungi to find the *exact* mushroom they want. However, they may be leaving other choice edibles behind because they were not on their radar, or they may have overlooked a specimen that no one else at the foray has encountered.

I am always amazed at the sheer number and variety of fungi found on our forays. Even in very dry weather, the ID tables are full of specimens. NJMA keeps records of all fungi identified at a specific foray site. Lists are also kept of all specimens found in a given year. Comparisons are made with previous years’ finds, the number of specimens found, and notes if any were new to this specific site. This information is available via email after the forays for those who are interested, and previous years’ species lists can be found via the “NJ Mushrooms” link on the NJMA website.

Therefore, it would help the club to pick up that “ugly” non-bolete mushroom of no interest to you. It may be a new specimen never encountered at that location before, or it may be one that has not been seen in many years at this foray or elsewhere in NJ. In any case you will be doing NJMA a service. It may have another non-food use, such as for dyeing or papermaking. Just bring back something that is not too far decomposed for proper identification.

Some specimens may indeed be edible, but may be tasteless or bitter, or even make you sick if you eat them with an alcoholic beverage. Sometimes people have enjoyed a specific edible for years, only to be sickened by it one day. Others may make you very sick or even kill you if you are not careful and mistake it for another mushroom. Proper identification often takes a lot of time and experience.

It is a common endeavor to want to know what to call every Unidentified Fungal Object (UFO) you have found in the woods. NJMA encourages learning about all things fungal. But one should at least make an initial attempt at identification: Open a book or two (or more), or consult one or more online resources before posting “I found this in the woods, what is it?” types of questions. Many of us have lots and lots of pictures of unknown UFO specimens we hope to identify one day. However, a picture may not be enough to make a positive identification. It may be blurry or not show enough of the necessary detail. You may need to show the mushroom to an expert. It may also require the use of a microscope or a chemical test.

Another skill-building technique is to take one or more of NJMA’s excellent Education Workshops: “Introduction to Mushrooms,” and “Collection and Field Identification of Mushrooms.” These classes will help you learn about the many distinguishing characteristics of fungi that will enable you to identify a specimen, as well as increase your powers of observation. Lastly, one of the best ways to learn is to foray with an expert and to study the specimens that were positively identified at one of our forays.



## ROSALIND LOWEN, Ph.D. TO SPEAK & TEACH ASCOMYCETES AT OUR NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AT 1:30PM, FRELINGHUYSEN ARBORETUM, MORRISTOWN

We will be delighted to welcome Rosalind Lowen, Ph.D. to our lecture meeting on November 13, 2016. Roz will provide an introduction and overview of Ascomycetes, the large phylum of fungi that most of us only think about in morel season.

Roz needs no introduction to NJMA members who attend NEMF’s Sam Ristich Foray or COMA’s Clark T. Rogerson Foray. She has been teaching amateurs to appreciate and identify Ascomycetes at these forays for many years, and frequently gives programs at mushroom clubs. Roz is a retired mycologist who conducted research at the New York Botanical Garden. Her doctoral research at CCNY, under Clark Rogerson, on the ascomycete genus *Nectriella* led to the identification of over 20 new species. Roz has also been interested in ascos that occur with lichens, molds, and Helvellas (think: Morels), as well as *Tricholomas*.

Prior to the lecture, Dr. Lowen will lead one of our special event Mini-Workshops in Ascomycete Microscopy from 12:00pm to 1:30pm. Preregistration is required (see next paragraph for information).

Ascomycetes make up about 75% of all described fungi, but only a few species of ascos make it into most field guides. There are two reasons to be interested in ascomycete microscopy: the bizarre, outlandish shapes of their spores and asci visible under the microscope are fascinating; and species identifications that are uncertain based on field ID often become solid when microscopic characters are considered. Roz Lowen will lead us through the process of preparing sections, and then interpreting what we see under the microscope. We will have a couple of club microscopes available, and we invite participants with microscopes to bring them. Participants without microscopes can then partner up with someone who has one. Prior microscopy experience not required. **\$5 fee to be paid at the workshop. Limit 12 participants. Register by emailing Igor Safonov at [njmycomember@gmail.com](mailto:njmycomember@gmail.com) by November 6<sup>th</sup> and also indicate whether you will be bringing your microscope.**

THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

# FUN MUSHROOMS 2016

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**FRELINGHUYSEN ARBORETUM**

353 EAST HANOVER AVENUE, MORRISTOWN, NJ

YOUR MUSHROOMS IDENTIFIED • EXHIBITS AND TALKS • GUIDED MUSHROOM WALKS  
MUSHROOM COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS • MUSHROOM CULTIVATION • MUSHROOM ARTS AND CRAFTS  
MUSHROOM BOOKS, FIELD GUIDES, & ARTWORK • ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS, AND MORE!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [njmyco.org](http://njmyco.org)

# CAN YOU PHOTOGRAPH A MUSHROOM?

by Frank Marra

At the Victor Gambino Foray (see [page 10](#) for a recap), the awesome Jim Barg gave us a lesson. Whether for yourself, *Mushroom Observer*, *NJMA News*, or the NJMA Photo Contest you can take a better photo.

#1: Subject Matter – For real, is it worth the photo? Does it pop? If yes, clean off the leaves and twigs.

#2: Lighting – Avoid flash (if anything use fill flash). Be careful of bright backgrounds (it will make your subject dark). Use reflectors (a simple 6x8 inch cardboard with white paper glued to one side and dull aluminum foil on the other side will work great). This can light up the underside of a mushroom or direct more light through the cap. In a pinch; try using a pocket flashlight.

#3: Composition – try to look up at the mushroom (*i.e.* get some gill or pore surface if possible). An off center subject makes for a more interesting photo (divide your view into 3 vertical and horizontal sections – put your subjects at the intersections – creating a diagonal effect). The background? Is it creating a distracting or a complimentary effect? Usually a fuzzy background is good. The aperture opening, controlled by the f-stop, allows the camera to do this. An f-stop of 5 – 8 is a good range, larger than 10 will put the background more in focus.

#4: Sharpness – Keep camera steady (use a tripod, a beanbag or get down on your elbows). Focus on the correct spot (each camera is different – learn what is needed to focus your camera. Push the shutter half way to establish focus distance? Tap on the iPhone image to focus?) Don't forget to clean your lens!

#5: Color Balance – the forest with all its green hues will dull the pinks and reds. That is why you will need photo editing at home. While Photoshop is well known, there is a lot of easier and free software online.

So get out and shoot the mushrooms you find. Creativity is your call, try all the different angles and see what's best. Then submit your photos to *NJMA News* ([njmaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:njmaeditor@gmail.com)) or the NJMA Photo Contest (see elsewhere in this issue for details and an entry form).



# FUNGUS FESTIVITIES



## WE WANT YOU!

**Our Fungus Fest has been scheduled for Sunday, September 25** at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in lovely Morristown, NJ. Fungus Fest is NJMA's most important public relations event of the year, and we could really use your help. At Fungus Fest, we showcase the wonders of the 5<sup>th</sup> Kingdom: a beautiful slime mold slide presentation, mushroom identification tables, a cultivation display, culinary demos, mushroom dyeing, a beginners identification workshop, a hands-on paper making demo and some fungal-related vendors are all part of the fun. We recruit many new members during Fungus Fest, and bring in donations to help fund our speakers and activities during the rest of the year. Come help out and reconnect with old friends and make some new ones.

**Please contact Liz Broderick, this year's chairperson, if you are available to help set up from 10:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday, September 24 or to help at Fungus Fest on Sunday, September 25 from 9:00am to 5:00pm.** This event depends heavily on volunteers, and some of our longtime members are no longer able to help out, so **WE NEED YOU!**

You can contact Liz at [medhead72@comcast.net](mailto:medhead72@comcast.net)

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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- Sunday, September 18 10:00am **FORAY: WAWAYANDA STATE PARK**  
*Hewitt, NJ (Passaic County)*
- 
- Saturday, September 24 10:00am - 12:30pm **CLASS: INTRODUCTION TO MUSHROOMS**  
Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. *Instructor: Patricia McNaught*  
*Registration required. Details are on [page 16](#).*
- 
- Saturday, September 24 1:00pm - 3:30pm **CLASS: COLLECTION AND FIELD IDENTIFICATION OF MUSHROOMS**  
Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. *Instructor: Jim Barg*  
*Registration required. Details are on [page 16](#).*
- 
- Sunday, September 25 10:00am - 4:00pm **NJMA FUNGUS FEST 2016 - FRELINGHUYSEN ARBORETUM**  
*Liz Broderick, chair*
- 
- Sunday, October 2 10:00am **FORAY: BRENDAN BYRNE STATE FOREST**  
*Woodland, NJ (Burlington County)*
- 
- Saturday, October 8 10:00am **FORAY: FOREST RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER**  
*Jackson, NJ (Ocean County)*
- 
- Sunday, October 16 10:00am **FORAY: WELLS MILLS COUNTY PARK**  
*Forked River, NJ (Ocean County)*
- 
- Saturday, October 29 9:00am - 4:00pm **WORKSHOP: MUSHROOMS FOR COLOR: DYEING WOOL AND SILK**  
*Registration required.* At the home of Liz Broderick (directions will be furnished to registrants) Details are on [page 16](#).
- 
- Sunday, October 30 10:00am **FORAY: BELLEPLAIN STATE PARK**  
*Woodbine, NJ (Cape May and Cumberland Counties)*
- 
- Sunday, November 6 **DEADLINE FOR PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES**
- 
- Sunday, November 13 12:00pm - 1:30pm **SPECIAL EVENT MINI-WORKSHOP: ASCOMYCETE MICROSCOPY**  
*Instructor: Roz Lowen. Registration required.* See article on Dr. Lowen on [page 4](#).
- 
- Sunday, November 13 1:30pm **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, ELECTION, & LECTURE**  
**Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ**  
Lecture by Rosalind Lowen, Ph.D., on the subject of Ascomycetes. See [page 4](#).
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## GREEN PASTURES PRESENTATION AT FUNGUS FEST

It's a "fungi" thing to do for us at Green Pasture Farms to have a pop-up Green Table of educational displays, a mini-workshop of forest log-grown shiitake cultivation, and locally log-grown organic shiitakes for sale. Back by popular demand will be samples of Shiitake Paté. All presented fresh from your local farmers Ray & Gemma Pesceovich. Thank you for your support !

## THE ROAD TRAVELED - THE UPSIDE OF TAKING THE WRONG TURN

by Betty M. Wise

Sometimes taking the wrong turn leads to some happy coincidences. Such was the case for me on a recent foray at Baldpate Mountain. The parking lot was pretty full, and I didn't want to lose my spot, so I decided to head up the trail and meet the group at one of the predetermined foray spots. I had hiked here several years ago and I remembered the trails were well-marked, so I figured it would be easy. This time, however, was a different story. Trail markers were in short supply, or non-existent, where I had seen them years ago.

I ran into several groups of people on my way to the appointed site. The first was two guys on mountain bikes along the driveway. One asked if I had anything good to eat in my "picnic" (foray) basket. I told him I could only offer some poisonous mushroom specimens. I guess that was not what he wanted to hear. He promptly sped away up the steep incline.



*Boletus hortonii* at Baldpate

Up ahead, I encountered several people without mushroom baskets. I figured they were either new to our forays or our hosts from the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space. One gentleman told me he was with a birding club from Pennsylvania. He said Baldpate was one of the best places in this area to see many migratory birds not seen elsewhere. I told him I was out mushrooming and looking for the red trail to join the others. He said he did not like mushrooms, but said one guy in

his group would be very interested in our club. I told him about our forays and the NJMA website, and said they were always welcome to join us on a foray.

I spoke to a jogger who told me he had only recently discovered this park. He did not know where the red trail was or if that narrow water run-off was indeed a trail. It was still wet from the rains the day before, so it was hard to tell if it was a trail or not. I told him about our club and he seemed somewhat interested.

I came upon a couple on the trail. They were mushrooming, but said they had seen lots of mushrooms up ahead on the trail. I told them about our club and they seemed interested. Maybe we will see them on a future foray.

Further on up the trail was yet another couple. They were out picking the ample wineberries. I told them I was looking to foray at a specific location. They told me about another park where they had recently seen many mushrooms. I made note of it and will have to go there one day soon. They also said that the water run-off path was indeed the red trail. It was already getting late, so I decided to turn around and head back to the parking area and the ID tables.

Even though I never made it to the predetermined foray site, I had an enjoyable walk in the woods. I found some interesting mushrooms along the way, and had an impromptu outreach event. Baldpate Mountain is a beautiful place to hike and enjoy the wonderful treasure it is.



## MY FATHER'S SUPER-SIZED FIND

a photo by Eric Duch of a colossal chanterelle found by Klaus Duch





### *Maitake Tacos with Chimichurri*

*A recipe by Luke Smithson*

**13 cloves garlic**

**1 tablespoon cooking oil of choice (olive oil, canola, etc.), plus more for cooking mushrooms**

**1 cup sour cream**

**½ cup flat leaf parsley leaves, packed**

**½ cup cilantro, loosely packed**

**1 tablespoon shallots, minced**

**½ cup extra virgin olive oil**

**¼ cup red wine vinegar**

**Salt to taste**

**Black pepper to taste**

**1 pound Maitake mushrooms**

**8 each 6" white tortillas**

**2 cups Napa cabbage, shredded**

#### **Roasted Garlic Sour Cream**

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- In a small square of aluminum foil, place whole, peeled garlic cloves and pour 1 tablespoon cooking oil over garlic to coat. Fold foil over top to make a sealed pouch and place in oven for 45 minutes to roast garlic. • *Tip:* Save any leftover oil from roasting garlic and put into chimichurri!
- Once garlic is soft and caramelized, mash it thoroughly in a small bowl with a fork. Allow to cool, then stir in sour cream. Chill. (This can be made up to 3 days in advance)

#### **Chimichurri**

- Chop parsley and cilantro. Mix herbs with minced shallots, extra virgin olive oil, red wine, salt and pepper. (If you have any leftover oil from roasting the garlic, mix this in too).
- Allow to blend for 30 minutes before using.

#### **Maitake Tacos**

- Separate Maitakes into 3" pieces, trimming away any woody sections at base of the mushrooms. Heat a sauté pan over medium high heat. Add enough cooking oil to just coat pan, then add enough Maitake to fill pan one layer deep. Don't overload pan or your mushrooms will steam and not caramelize.
- Allow mushrooms to thoroughly cook, turning several times, for about 5 minutes. Mushrooms should become browned and slightly crispy.
- When fully cooked and while still on the heat, spoon a tablespoon or two of Chimichurri over cooked mushrooms. *Caution:* Chimichurri may flare up a little...don't be alarmed – this will further the caramelization and will die out quickly.
- Season mushrooms with salt and pepper to taste.
- To assemble, spoon a generous helping of Roasted Garlic Sour Cream onto the warmed tortilla shell. Place mushrooms on sour cream, spoon another scoop of Chimichurri over mushrooms and garnish with shredded Napa cabbage. (*Editor's note:* The photograph of the finished dish has a pickled onion garnish as well as more chimichurri. Luke said that it was too over-the-top with the onions, so use whatever you have on hand)
- Eat immediately!



PHOTO BY LUKE SMITHSON

# VICTOR GAMBINO WEEKEND 2016

by Liz Broderick, Chairperson, Victor Gambino Weekend

This year's Victor Gambino Weekend was held on June 24, 25 and 26 at the comfortable Kirkridge Retreat Center in Bangor, Pennsylvania, just south of the Delaware Water Gap. We stayed at the comfortable Nelson Lodge nestled along the scenic Kittatinny Ridge and bordering the Appalachian Trail. Our fourteen campers included nine longtime members of NJMA and five newer members who provided a great mix of enthusiasm and experience. Participants came from diverse backgrounds including teachers, scientists, computer experts, nurses, business people and college students. The Kirkridge chefs made us fresh, delicious Thai food on Friday night and a Greek menu on Saturday.

Some fungal reconnaissance in early April by John and Nina Burghardt and myself looked like the habitat should yield some great mushrooming in June. We hadn't counted on a long dry spell that made us really work for our fungi. Luckily there are some small streams and waterfalls in the area that were productive. Despite the parched woods, we were able to find 153 specimens with 82 identified to species and another 17 identified to genus only. Some of the most interesting finds included Igor Safonov's beautiful *Amanita whetstoneae*, a newly documented species that Dr. Rod Tulloss will be publishing in the next few months. Maricel Patino, one of our enthusiastic newbies, found an amazing *Orphiocordyceps variabilis*. Veteran naturalist, Dorothy Smullen, was thrilled to find a new non-fungal life species, a Calico Pennant Dragonfly.

The weekend program included some worthwhile and entertaining presentations. Igor Safonov gave a great talk about Amanitas. He shared the flow chart he created that differentiates Amanitas into seven sections based on their morphology. This is now my go-to chart when I find an unfamiliar Amanita. His slides were gorgeous and helped clarify the confusing definitions that makes keying out this group of fungi challenging. Dave Wasilewski, our guest mycologist, is a tremendous field mycologist who was not only a walking encyclopedia of mycological information, but great fun to be around. He gave an interesting presentation entitled "Collecting Fungi as a Citizen Scientist". He recommended using the *Mushroom Observer* website, and making your finds accessible to scientists who might be studying certain genera. He shared many of his beautiful *Mushroom Observer* posts, and said how using this website had enhanced his already formidable knowledge of fungi. Jim Barg gave an impressive Field Photography Workshop that gave us some insight on how he takes such gorgeous photos. He shared his secret tricks on how to make inexpensive reflectors and beanbag tripods to enhance our photography skills. (See Frank Marra's article in this newsletter for more information on this workshop).

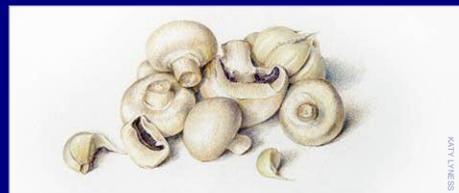
Perhaps my fondest memories of the weekend were breaking from our evening presentations to go out and admire the Kittatinny Ridge sunset vista from our lodge's back deck, and our evening socials sitting outside under the stars with our adult beverages talking to the amazing folks that attended this weekend. Dorothy Smullen was kind enough to share photo albums and memorabilia from our club's early days. We actually got to see pictures of Victor Gambino, and hear how he felt weekend getaways were important not just to learning more about fungi, but to making friends within the club. He started the tradition of the Victor Gambino Weekend that continues today. Despite the fact that our campers came from diverse backgrounds, we all came together because of a common passion about the Kingdom of Fungi. I would like to think Victor Gambino himself was smiling down on our gathering.

A tremendous "thank you" goes out to Nina and John Burghardt for their help. John procured the permits from the National Park Service, and he and Nina helped me with scouting potentially good foray locations. They worked tirelessly to dry and prepare specimens to send to the National Park Service Herbarium.



Some of the participants at the 2016 Victor Gambino foray

PHOTO BY LIZ BRODERICK



## ARE YOU DRAWN TO DRAWING MUSHROOMS?

We are always interested in receiving accurate hand drawings, sketches, or artwork in any variety of media to grace our pages. While we cannot guarantee that your work will be published, we do file each submission and consider it for use either in conjunction with specific articles or for use as backgrounds or supplemental art when needed. You retain your copyrights and you'll be credited in all cases.

Contact our Art Director Jim Barg at [jimbarg@bssmedia.com](mailto:jimbarg@bssmedia.com) for more information or to submit your work.

## WHO'S IN A NAME?

### *Tuckermanopsis americana*

by John Dawson (fifty-sixth in a series)

*Tuckermanopsis* is one of two lichen genera (the other being *Tuckermanella*) named after Edward Tuckerman (1817–1886), “the pre-eminent founder and promoter of lichenology in North America.”<sup>1</sup>

Tuckerman’s father, also named Edward, was a Boston merchant and Harvard graduate, so his namesake and eldest son expected to go to Harvard himself upon his graduation from Boston Latin School. His father, however, persuaded him to enroll instead at Union College in Schenectady, New York, to which he was admitted with sophomore standing.

In 1837, Tuckerman received his B.A. from Union, after which he returned to Cambridge and enrolled in Harvard Law School. He received his law degree two years later and then remained in Cambridge a further two years before embarking on a trip to Germany and Scandinavia, where he “devoted himself...to philosophical, historical and botanical studies.”<sup>2</sup> On that trip, Tuckerman travelled as far north as Uppsala, where he met Elias Fries, on whose works he later modeled his own.

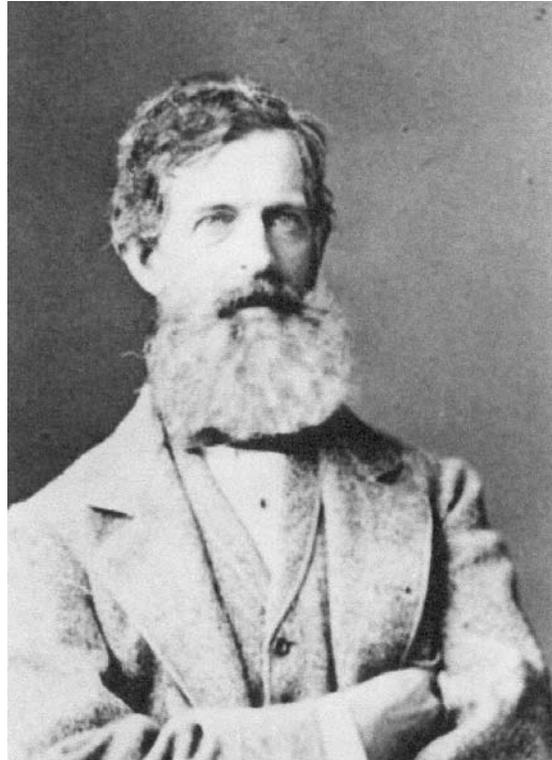
On his return home in September 1842, following a botanical excursion to the White Mountains of New Hampshire with Asa Gray, Tuckerman enrolled once more at Union College, where he earned an M.A.; and then, his thirst for instruction still not satisfied, in 1846 he applied again to Harvard, for admission as a twenty-nine-year-old senior *undergraduate*.<sup>3</sup> He graduated with distinction the following year after passing all the regular examinations and taking classes with the other students of the Harvard class of 1847— at which point, having earned two bachelor’s degrees, a master’s and a law degree, one would have thought he was at last ready to strike out on his own. Instead, two or three years later he enrolled in the Harvard Divinity School, from which he received yet a

third Harvard degree in 1852.

At last, in 1854, Tuckerman married Sarah Cushing, the daughter of his father’s business partner, and settled in Amherst, Massachusetts, where he served successively as Lecturer in History, Professor of Oriental History, and (from 1858 until his death) Professor of Botany at Amherst College.<sup>4</sup> Presumably, those were the fields in which he had earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Yet none of the sources I have seen confirm that.

Even Asa Gray, in his memoir on Tuckerman, could not say “when or how Professor Tuckerman became a

botanist.”<sup>5</sup> In any case, Tuckerman’s first publication, one of two papers on the lichens of New England that he presented to the Boston Society of Natural History, appeared in vol. 2 (1838–39) of that Society’s *Boston Journal of Natural History*,<sup>6</sup> and in 1843, during Tuckerman’s second residence at Union College, he privately published a 21-page enumeration of species of *Carex* (sedges) that Gray regarded as “the first considerable, and...really successful, attempt to combine the species of [that] genus into natural groups.”<sup>7</sup> Two years later, Tuckerman was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences,<sup>8</sup> to the first volume of whose *Proceedings* he contributed a “Synopsis of the lichens of New England, the other northern states, and British America.”



Edward Tuckerman

After his appointment at Amherst, Tuckerman authored several more important botanical publications, most (but not all) on lichens. Among them were “Lichens of California, Oregon, and the Rocky Mountains, so far as yet known” (1866); “Genera Lichenum, an arrangement of the North American Lichens” (1872); “A catalogue of plants growing without cultivation within thirty miles of Amherst College” (1875), including descriptions by Charles Frost of the “lower Cryptogamia” other than lichens; and “Synopsis of the North American lichens, Part I” (1882), sequels to which were left unfinished at his death.

(continues on the [next page](#))

<sup>1</sup> Quoted from Joe Walewski, *Lichens of the North Woods*, p. 128.

<sup>2</sup> According to the obituary memoir of Tuckerman by Asa Gray published in *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, vol. 21 (1885–86), pp. 491–498.

<sup>3</sup> According to Gray, *op.cit.*, he told Harvard’s President Quincy that he wanted to do so in order “to correct the mistake” his father had made by breaking with family tradition and sending him to college elsewhere.

<sup>4</sup> The Wikipedia entry on Tuckerman mentions that he had earlier taught at Union College, but no dates or other details are given.

<sup>5</sup> Gray, *op. cit.*, p. 492.

<sup>6</sup> Tuckerman’s paper was delivered to the Society on 5 December 1838. After World War II, that Society became the Boston Museum of Science.

<sup>7</sup> Gray, *op. cit.*, p. 493.

<sup>8</sup> At some point he was also elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

In addition to his botanical works, in 1832 Tuckerman reportedly published a number of brief articles on anti-quarian topics in *The Mercantile Journal*, and during the years 1834 to 1841, fifty-four articles on various topics in history, biography and theology in the *New York Churchman*.

In his later years, Tuckerman became hard of hearing, his health declined, and he withdrew from public life. But before his death, he was awarded one final degree (an honorary LL.D) by Amherst College.

Toward the end of Tuckerman's career, the thesis that lichens were dual organisms was put forward. Tuckerman himself, however, rejected that idea, and perhaps for that reason his writings are less valued today. In addition, his style of writing was described by Gray as "inimitable". In particular, though "the long and comprehensive sentences which he construct[ed] are unmistakably clear to those who will patiently plod their way through them...sometimes the statements are so hedged about and interpenetrated by qualifications or reservations...that they are far from easy reading."<sup>10</sup>



<sup>9</sup> Tuckerman was elected to membership in the American Antiquarian Society in 1855, and throughout his life he was a devout member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

<sup>10</sup> Gray, *op.cit.*, p. 495.



ILLUSTRATION OF AMANITA BISPORIGERA BY JIM RICHARDS

## WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW NJMA MEMBERS!

*We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following members who joined us between June 21, 2016 and August 30, 2016. We look forward to seeing you at lectures, forays, and other NJMA events. Happy 'shrooming!*

Volha Babash	Harrington Park, NJ
Michael & Samuel Cappabianca	Florham Park, NJ
Veronica Coulombe	Bayonne, NJ
Rebecca Frost	Califon, NJ
Daniel Greenbaum	Bergenfield, NJ
Jennifer Huh	Boonton, NJ
Grant Michael Kenny	Freehold, NJ
John Kiseli	Frenchtown, NJ
Joseph Kogan	Hoboken, NJ
Jonathan Lai	Verona, NJ
Sarah Lucas	Carlstadt, NJ
Marianne Maes	Flanders, NJ
Sara Maher	Dunellen, NJ
John Mullins	Wurtsboro, NY
Julia Paskaloff	Fort Lee, NJ
Elena Podgorny	Asbury Park, NJ
Stephen Primich	Livingston, NJ
Alanna Randazzo	Galloway, NJ
Alina Rekhman	Hoboken, NJ
Clayton Rickle	Brick, NJ
Christopher Roslan	Kinnelon, NJ
Sventlana Rozenfeld	Mount Laurel, NJ
Elena Rozenfeld	Westwood, NJ
Linda Rubes	Wood Ridge, NJ
Daniel Ruhland	Califon, NJ
Dennis Squibb	Milford, PA
Cynthia Tafuni	Long Valley, NJ

## UPDATE ON 2016 FORAYS

by Nina Burghardt, Foray Chair

I would like to thank all our members who volunteered to lead forays. You help make everything run smoothly. Virginia Tomat led the May foray in the Princeton Institute Woods. It was rainy when we started, but it stopped in time for the mushroom identification. This was good, since this area has no shelter from the elements. We didn't expect to find much in early May, but everyone was eager to try to find the elusive morel.

Jim Barg led the Lake Ocquittunk foray. There were fewer fungi than last year because it was much drier. We found an interesting insect, *Megglodacne heros*, which lives its whole life on the shelf mushroom *Ganoderma tsugae*. Some of us also saw a mother porcupine with her baby. She crossed the Flatbrook on a log leaving her baby high in a tree. We hoped that the two would be reunited after we left.

Maricel Patino led the Rancocas foray (see her report on [page 14](#)). In the past we have gone to the Rancocas Audubon Nature Center. Audubon has sold the nature center and now it is a nonprofit organization run by many of the same people who worked there in the past. The Indian reservation's state lease has not been renewed, so now the area on both sides of the Rancocas Creek is a state park. We collected on the Hainesport side of the creek as well as on the nature center's land. It had rained a few days before the foray, so we soon had the Nature Center room overflowing with mushrooms. The center had advertised our foray, as well as a Shitake workshop they had organized for the afternoon. The people who work there are so friendly and accommodating.

The Baldpate/Ted Stiles foray was lead by Patricia McNaught, Liz Broderick and me. Baldpate is a large place with two large parking areas, but those are a long way from the mushrooms. We divided the group into three and carpoled to three different areas. Since it had been raining throughout the week, there were lots of mushrooms. Our foray was co-sponsored by the Friends of Hopewell Open Space.

Usually Stephens State Park is a gold mine, but this year it was less productive than usual. It seemed that rain had avoided Hackettstown. Somehow, everyone managed to find fungi, albeit not in the best of condition. Thank you Jim Richards for leading this foray.

Dorothy Smullen led the Meadowood foray. We had several tables full. There was a beautiful *Boletus auripes* which has a brown cap and a bright yellow stem. There was also a vibrant orange-red *Cortinarius hestlii* (you can see this on [Mushroom Observer](#) 246991).

By the time you read this, we will have had our foray at State Line Lookout at Alpine, NJ (in the Palisades) overlooking New York City, led by Bob Saunders. We will have dipped our toes in the waters at Cattus Island with Lynn and Paul Hugerich. We have collected there before Hurricane Sandy, so it will be interesting to see what has come up after this area was devastated. The Grete Turchik Memorial Foray and Picnic at Kittle Field in Stokes State Park will be lead by Jim Barg.

We have lots of forays planned for September and October, so check your schedule and come join us.

## MAY 1 - PRINCETON INSTITUTE WOODS

reported by Virginia Tomat

The first or second NJMA foray for the spring was held on May 1. It was pouring rain and we thought that perhaps not many people would show up. How wrong we were! When we arrived the parking lot was pretty much filled as members and guests with raincoats and umbrellas were already out with their baskets in the rain minutes before 10 am, the scheduled foray start time, but of course "it was the morel foray."

How wonderful would it have been if the rain had fallen a day or two before. We imagine that maybe the field would have been all popping up with morels?

One thing about foraying in the rain is seeing how beautiful deep green and shiny all the forest looks and enjoying the smell of the wet earth. Richard made some maps of the surroundings at his job, everyone got one, and there we went. Even so, with the rain, the maps got wet and became hard to read as the paper broke in pieces. Maybe next time we can protect them with contact plastic.

The group split in half, each one going a different way. In our group were Maricel, who we just met, and Tanya. We didn't find any morels, but we did find several polypore specimens. In a way, it was fun! You never know what surprises you will find on the way. We saw a woodpecker pointed out by Maricel.

As we all gathered to check our finds, we learned that Lucky Luke found several *Morchella diminutiva*. John, i.e. the President of NJMA, stated "We actually had a few fleshy fungi that were not growing on wood, though the great majority were wood dwellers." 25 species were identified.





PHOTO BY VIRGINIA TOMAT

Members that participated under the rain at Princeton

## JULY 10 - RANCOCAS FORAY

reported by Maricel Patino

The July 10<sup>th</sup> foray at Rancocas State Park at Hainsport, NJ, was very enriching and exciting. It was so gratifying to see how people arriving from different places came together in such a friendly way, driven by their interest in nature. Before we divided the groups in two, one to go to Rancocas State Park and the other one to stay at Rancocas Nature Center, I asked the participants to please not collect large old specimens of cracked polypores. I thought they belonged there; they are old and apparently, some of them were growing on the tree when it was alive, the tree fell down and new growths have appeared on the old specimen. There is something that shrinks my heart when a crew goes to a place, and many hands take a sample of the same specimen because, sometimes, all these pieces end in the waste basket and the fungus is destroyed. Here is a photo of one of them (*next column*). This one measured 43 cm.



PHOTO BY MARICEL PATINO

We didn't have to walk too far to find fungi because the edges of the trail were populated by a variety of them. We called to each other to share the treasures, to take photos of what other people had found or to ask questions. Time went by too quick. Back at the RNC, the tables became full of tiny and giant mushrooms waiting to be identified.

Thank you to John and Nina for all your hard work and thanks to all of you who participated, helped and contributed to this foray.

## JULY 24 - STEPHENS STATE PARK FORAY

report by John Burghardt with Jim Richards

The July 24<sup>th</sup> foray at Stephens State Park took place toward the end of what would turn out to be the hottest July ever recorded. Unfortunately, it was also one of the driest months as well. As expected, the collecting was not what we normally find at this site. The other problem that we encountered was that this weather brought out a lot more visitors from New York and surrounding areas. The result of the park's popularity was that we were unable to find any unoccupied tables for our ID session. Marc Grobman spotted an unused area at the side of the road leading to the parking area. So we spread some blankets and went to work.

Part of John Burghardt's notes on the "collection" of mostly "tired" specimens in less-than-prime condition:

“As usually occurs on our forays, most taxa recorded this year at Stephens were ones we see quite frequently; 47 of the 72 were “familiar” in that we have collected them at least once every other year since 1981. The fact that we see these taxa more or less regularly suggests that either they manage to fruit in diverse weather conditions or that the fruit bodies persist in very dry conditions. *Tyromyces chioneus* and *Trichaptum bifforme*, the two most frequently recorded fungi collected at Stephens this year, have each been recorded about eight times in every year covered by our records. These are among the fungi that can nearly always be counted on to appear at our forays no matter the conditions.

Our two most unusual fungi from Stephens this year were *Boletus pallidoroseus* and *Tylopilus violotinctus*, each collected in just four years previously. Igor posted these to *Mushroom Observer* as part of a project he is participating in to document the Boletaceae of north-eastern North America.

*Cortinarius distans* and *Biscogniauxia atropunctata* are also unusual finds. Although *C. distans* is relatively rare, it had already been recorded once before this year at the Ted Stiles Foray at Baldpate.

We don’t have a photo for the *Biscogniauxia atropunctata*. However, it is a light grayish crust fungus with black dots poking through the gray surface. There are many observations of this fungus with pictures on MO. It is known as the Hypoxylon Canker (based on its old genus designation, and fruits on oak trees. We often see it on small dead branches, which it has likely killed. This fungus is a parasite that can eventually cause a butt rot in oak trees weakened by old age or adverse conditions. Many healthy trees are able to fight off the invader and only lose a few branches.”

We can only hope that our collecting at next year’s foray in this area will be closer to what we usually gather at this location – and that we remember to station a volunteer to reserve one of the tables!



No tables available at Stephens!



Examining “Old Men (of the Woods)” at Meadowood Park



Someone’s basket o’ plenty at Baldpate/Ted Stiles Preserve



A nice young firm *Lactarius corrugis* found at Meadowood Park

# MUSHROOM EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE REST OF 2016

**Saturday, September 24**

**10:00 am to 12:30 pm – INTRODUCTION TO MUSHROOMS**

(At the Frelinghuysen Arboretum)

Come learn about mushrooms, a.k.a. macrofungi: their characteristics, their life cycle, their roles in the ecosystem, and their amazing diversity. Patricia McNaught will endeavor to explain the science, without the scientific jargon. You may have started mushrooming to find edibles, but this workshop will make you fall in love with the denizens of the Fifth Kingdom. **\$5.00 fee for members, \$15 fee for non-members. Limit: 20 participants. Register on the NJMA website by September 20 for this workshop.**

**Saturday, September 24**

**1:00pm to 3:30pm – COLLECTION AND FIELD IDENTIFICATION OF MUSHROOMS**

(At the Frelinghuysen Arboretum)

In this workshop, Jim Barg will discuss equipment necessary for collection of mushrooms, and then lead participants in exercises to develop their powers of observation. The vocabulary to describe field characteristics and the different statures (Friesien type) will also be discussed. This workshop will help the mushroomer who is tired of flipping through field guides in the hope that a picture will resemble the mushroom in question. **\$20.00 fee. Limit: 15 participants. Register on the NJMA website by September 20 for this workshop.**

**Saturday, October 29**

**9:00am to 4:00pm – MUSHROOMS FOR COLOR: DYEING WOOL AND SILK**

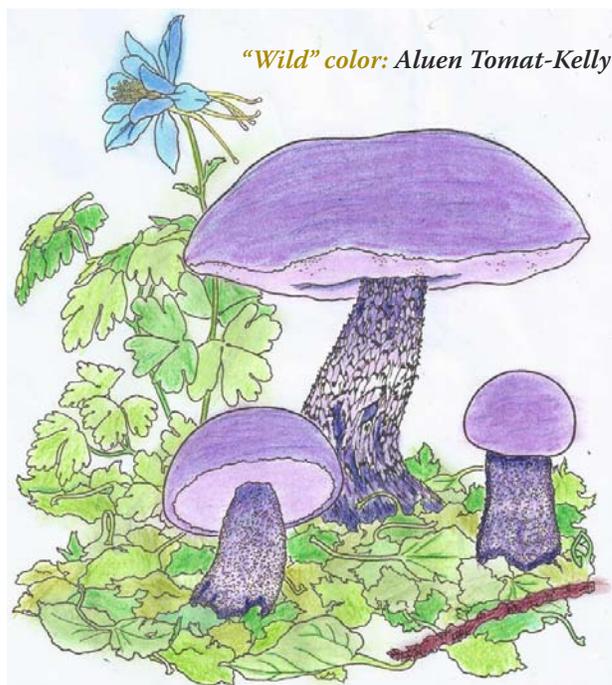
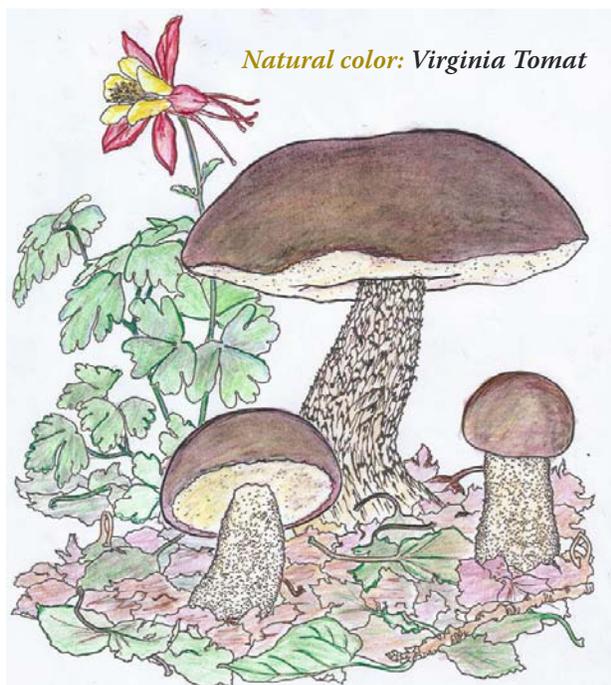
at the home of Liz Broderick (directions will be furnished to registrants)

At Fungus Fest, you may have seen the exquisite silk scarves and wool garments dyed using mushrooms for color. The dye mushrooms used are not commercially available, and the technique requires careful attention to temperature. Our dye workshop is unique because participants will leave with 6 gram “mini skeins” of several colors of mushroom-dyed yarn, suitable to work into designs for those who knit or crochet. In addition, participants will dye silk scarves. Ursula Pohl will guide participants through the mordanting, dye preparation, and the handling of the wool and silk through the process. This is an all day workshop; please bring a bag lunch. **\$25.00 fee. Limit 12 participants. Register on the NJMA website by October 16<sup>th</sup>.**

*And don't forget our special event mini-workshop with Dr. Roz Lowen on Ascomycete Microscopy on November 13<sup>th</sup>. See page 4.*

## COLORING CONTEST

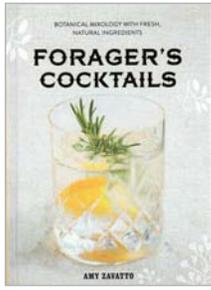
*Each of these two artists will be receiving NJMA Gift Certificates for their efforts.*



## BOOK REVIEW

# FORAGER'S COCKTAILS

a book review by Mike Rubin



## *Forager's Cocktails: Botanical Mixology with Fresh, Natural Ingredients*

by Amy Zavatto

Published by Sterling Epicure (2015).

144 pages

ISBN 13: 978-1454917472

ISBN-10: 1454917474

I was really excited to review this book as I received it just before the Bob Peabody Wild Foods Foray and Picnic. I like to forage for berries and other wild foods while out looking for mushrooms. The thought of using fresh ingredients in my libations was particularly intriguing. The idea of using Ramps as a garnish for a Gibson kept coming to mind!

This little book uses ingredients that we are all familiar with to add some variety to your standard drinks. Dandelions, sorrel, violets, and blueberries are some of the more common plants I come across during my forays into the wilds of New Jersey. Ms. Zavatto's recipes include a blueberry Daiquiri and a Dandelion Pickle Back, which is pickled dandelion or chive flowers and bourbon. What's not to like?

Her recipes also use a variety of syrups made from foraged ingredients. I think it helps bring out the flavor in the ingredients and tempers some the bitterness one can encounter.

Mulberries, strawberries, and huckleberries have their moment in the sun as do elderberry flowers and mint. A fresh mint mojito would be really refreshing about now as the heat index today is around 100°.

The book is a nice change of pace for anyone interested in mixology. It's not heavy on botany or taxonomy. The assumption is that you are familiar with wild foods already and just need a new outlet for their use. I would recommend this book as a nice adjunct to your ever-increasing library of recipe books.



## **NOTE: ALL REVIEWED BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM NJMA'S ROBERT PEABODY LIBRARY**

All of the books that have been reviewed in *NJMA News* over the past several years, as well as hundreds of other titles, are available for NJMA members in good standing to borrow. It is a great way for you to get a look at the books and decide whether you wish to buy a copy to add to your collection.

Contact Igor Safonov, the library's Circulation Manager ([njmycomember@gmail.com](mailto:njmycomember@gmail.com)) to make arrangements to borrow the book(s).

## FUNGUS BEER? NO REALLY.

by Kristen Inbody, *Great Falls Tribune*, May 10, 2016,  
via *Spore Prints*, newsletter of the Puget Sound Mycological Society

SIDNEY, MT - When it comes to unusual beers, it's hard to beat Meadowlark Brewing's new Fungus Shui.

The amber/gold ale is brewed with local honey and, most interestingly, mushrooms.

"Like a lot of beers we make here, we begin a discussion and throw ideas onto the white board," brewery founder Travis Peterson said. "I had a moment one night thinking about mushrooms and a smoked oyster stout."

However, brewer Tim Schnars knew about candy cap mushrooms, which have a maple syrup flavor. Maple syrup itself would make for a sugary beer, but the mushrooms were an intriguing option.

Soon Peterson's wife was kissing him and smelling maple syrup, Peterson said. The whole brewery took on the fragrance.

The mushrooms, \$200 a pound, combined with honey and honey malt for a beer that's "like eating pancakes," Peterson said. "The big flavor you get is maple syrup. During fermentation, it tastes like waffle crisps. Then the sugars start to disappear, but the maple flavor and the grain really shines through."

The beer is fun and doing well, Peterson said. It's become his mom's favorite. She steered him away from using the mushrooms in an amber and toward a blonde for a better butter, pancakes, and maple syrup vibe.

"With a name like Fungus Shui and people knowing the star ingredient is mushrooms, we had a big hurdle," Peterson said. The fungus beer was the first of Meadowlark's kegs to empty at the recent Bakken Brew Fest and placed second only to Bowser Brewing Co.'s Jalapeno Hefeweizen.



## **MICHIGAN-SHAPED MOREL OFFERED FOR \$10,000 ON eBAY**

by Nate Reens, <http://www.mlive.com>, May 17, 2016  
via *Spore Prints*, newsletter of the Puget Sound Mycological Society

MANISTEE, MI - When Lance Miller lies down at night, he sees morel mushrooms as he closes his eyes. But the best fungus find the Manistee man has made — a spitting image of the Lower Peninsula — took him a day to realize.

And now the delicacy is on eBay and available for \$10,000.

"It's a joke," said Miller, an outdoorsman who relishes the hunt for morels. "It's getting people talking and having fun."

The highest bid so far is \$1, Miller said, noting he has no real intention of selling, or eating, the morsel.



# NJMA PHOTO CONTEST 2016

Show off your fungi photos!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: **NOVEMBER 6, 2016**

If you haven't already started doing so, get your photos together *now* and don't miss the deadline. Winners will receive valuable awards (see below), plus you'll receive heaps of praise from your fellow NJMA members. Also, your winning photos will become a permanent part of the NJMA Photo Library.

If you need technical assistance to prepare your digital-format photos for entry, contact Jim Barg at [jimbarg@bssmedia.com](mailto:jimbarg@bssmedia.com) or call him at 908-227-0872. You can send in your entries by email, with two important restrictions. ONE: You MUST send all your entries in one email message, and TWO: You MUST include a scanned or clearly photographed copy of your completed entry form in that message.

You can submit photos taken in *any* year. You are not limited to photos taken only this year.

Also note that *we will only accept digital files* of photos from now on. If you have a slide or print, you must have it scanned before submitting it.

THE JUDGES FOR THIS YEAR'S PHOTO CONTEST WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON ON OUR WEBSITE.

## ENTRY CATEGORIES AND DIVISIONS

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

### TECHNICAL (Divisions: *Novice and Advanced*)

This category is for photos that can be used to aid in the identification of fungi, as if they were going to be used in a field guide. Emphasis will be placed on portrayal of key morphological characteristics. The subjects may be photographed *in situ* or removed to a more photographically appropriate setting. Photos through the microscope are included in this category.

### 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. Judging criteria include consideration of both technical (focus, depth of field, exposure, lighting, color, absence of distracting elements) and artistic (composition, color, background, lighting) aspects.

### JUDGES' OPTION (Divisions: *Novice and Advanced*)

The entries in this category should be mushroom-themed or mushroom-club-related and can depict anything not covered in the Pictorial or Technical Categories. For example, they may depict either people working (or playing) with mushrooms or the results of this work or play. You can use this category for photos of club or regional events, forays, and gatherings (NJMA, NEMF, NAMA, etc.) or use it for creatively-manipulated photos involving mushrooms. It may also show people cooking mushrooms (or the dishes prepared). The use of a mushroom theme as part of a craft project and the finished objects are also appropriate entries for this category...basically, anything that is *not strictly* a mushroom photograph. (If you use digital manipulation, we will **not** need to see your originals, but it is imperative that all components of your image be your original work.) Creative use of text in the image is acceptable.

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

NOVICE DIVISION	ADVANCED DIVISION
<b>T</b> echnical	<b>T</b> echnical
<b>P</b> ictorial	<b>P</b> ictorial
<b>J</b> udges' Option	<b>J</b> udges' Option

## AWARDS

All entries will be shown and winners will be announced at our annual Holiday Party meeting in early December.

**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.

**BEST IN SHOW** (chosen from the six First Place winners): \$50.00 NJMA gift certificate

As always, winners' photos will become part of the permanent photo collection of NJMA. We also reserve the right to publish any of your entries (winners or not) on our website, in our newsletter and other NJMA publications with due credit given to the photographer.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR CONTEST RULES AND HOW TO ENTER

## NJMA 2016 PHOTO CONTEST RULES

1. This contest is open to current NJMA members, officers, and photo contest committee members only. Images that have previously won (including Honorable Mention) are not eligible. You are permitted to enter photos from *any* year – you are *not* limited to photos taken only during the past year.
2. You are only permitted to enter photos in one Division or the other (Novice or Advanced). Novice contestants may not enter the Advanced Division (unless they have won a First Place award in previous years – see Rule #3), and Advanced contestants may not enter the Novice division. **You must check the box on the top of the entry form indicating your entry into either the Novice or Advanced Division.** If the Photo Contest Committee determines that you have entered into the improper division, you will be reassigned to compete in the proper division.
3. **Which Division to enter:** The following types of contestants may *only* enter the Advanced Division and are not permitted to enter the Novice Division: (a) Professional photographers or those who earn any portion of their livelihood with their photographs, and (b) Anyone who has won a First Place award in the Novice Division in any previous year.
4. **All entries must be made by electronic file (.jpg or .tif) in their original resolution.** If you have a slide or 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 files in either of these formats. We recommend scanning at 300 dpi resolution at an image size of roughly 8"x10") All judging will be done on computer monitors. If you're not sure how to prepare your digital files for submission, please call Jim Barg at 908-227-0872 for technical assistance.
5. **LABEL EACH ENTRY!** Name each file with **your initials**, followed by the **category code** (see previous page), followed by the **number of your entry**. For example, if your name is John Doe, and you are entering into the Technical category, and this is your first entry, the entry code on your first slide should read **JD-T-1.jpg** or **JD-T-1.tif** (don't forget the .jpg or .tif suffix!). **Record this same number on the entry form under "Entry Code".**
6. Fill out the entry form below, recording your entries using this code and also, if they are mushroom photos, providing your best attempt at determining the scientific name of the mushroom(s) included in the photo. (*Improper ID is no longer a cause for disqualification, but we are a mushroom club, and we'd really like you to attempt a proper ID!*) We suggest that you make a photocopy of the entry form and keep it for future reference.
7. Digital image files should be submitted by email or on optical media such as CD-R or DVD-R or PC/Mac flash storage devices (NOT the cards which are used in your digital camera). At your request, we can return flash storage devices if you provide us a stamped, self-addressed envelope (SASE) along with your entry. We accept entries by email, *but you must include a scanned (or clearly photographed) copy of the completed entry form.* If you choose to email your entries, we cannot take responsibility for lost, damaged, or undelivered files. If we receive your entries by email, we will send a confirmation when we get them.
8. **For photos entered in the Pictorial and Technical categories only:** 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, dirt, or scratch removal, grain reduction, and sharpening are acceptable forms of digital manipulation in these two categories. Digitally-manipulated photos will not be considered for judging if we do not receive a copy of your unmodified original (It is acceptable to watermark this copy if you wish). If you intentionally add, subtract, or move any element or object that's in the original photograph, your entries will be disqualified. (Entries in the Judges' Option category are exempt from this requirement.)
9. **For photos entered in the Judges' Option category only:** Your subject must include mushrooms or anything mushroom-related (club activities and food photos are permissible just so long as they are identified in the title of the work.) You may do whatever manipulation, augmentation, subtraction, filtering, effects...whatever you wish. Any components you use must be your work (e.g., not scanned from a book or magazine or taken from the Internet). You may also creatively use text or other elements of your own making in your entry. You do **NOT** need to submit your originals.
10. Entries are limited to 12 photos per contestant, including any which may be disallowed for improper or non-permitted forms of digital manipulation.
11. 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.
12. Entries must be postmarked (or date-stamped if sending by email) by 11:59 PM on November 6, 2016.

## SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRIES

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

**Jim Barg  
NJMA 2016 Photo Contest  
220 Millbrook Road  
Hardwick, NJ 07825-9658**

Email entries should be sent in **ONE** email message (either as multiple attachments, a Dropbox or Google Drive notification, or one .zip file containing all photos – **and don't forget to include your completed entry form!**) to [jimbarg@bssmedia.com](mailto:jimbarg@bssmedia.com). We repeat: **YOU MUST** also attach a scanned copy of the entry form in your message or in whatever location you send your entries to us. Multiple email messages containing one photo each are confusing and will NOT be accepted since there are lots of online sharing options. If you do not know how to add attachments to an email message, use Dropbox or Google Drive, or if your outgoing email cannot handle large files, please US Mail/UPS/FedEx your entries on CD-R, DVD-R, or USB flash drive to the above address.

# NJMA PHOTO CONTEST 2016



I AM ENTERING IN THIS DIVISION:

**NOVICE**

**ADVANCED**

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

*(Please fill out according to the instructions 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 <i>(see items 5 and 6 in Rules)</i>	CATEGORY <i>(check one per entry)</i>	IDENTIFICATION or CAPTION
<b>1</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>2</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>3</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>4</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>5</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>6</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>7</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>8</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>9</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>10</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>11</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>12</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGES OPTION <input type="checkbox"/> PICTORIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	

*Please remember that photos submitted on digital media will not be returned unless you enclose a SASE with your entry.*

*Also remember that, if you digitally manipulated or retouched your entry in the Pictorial or Technical categories, you must enclose the original (or an unmodified copy of the original, or a watermarked copy of the original) as well!*

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS 11:59pm, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016.**