THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION VOLUME 51-4 EARLY FALL (SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER) 2021

NJMA OFFICERS

President - Frank Marra Vice-President - Sue McClary Secretary - Stefanie Bierman Treasurer - Igor Safonov

DUES

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Mail checks (payable to NJMA) to: Igor Safonov

115 E. Kings Hwy., Unit #348 Maple Shade, NJ 08052-3478

NJMA WEBSITE www.njmyco.org

Sue McClary, coordinator

NJMA NEWS

Editor:

Jim Richards

211 Washington Street Hackettstown, NJ 07840-2145 njmaeditor@gmail.com

Layout and graphic design:

Jim Barg

jimbargg5@mac.com

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Stefanie Bierman 407R Indiana Avenue Long Branch, NJ 07740-6119 steflowers@gmail.com

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!



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NJMA is an all-volunteer organization. As such, we have accomplished many amazing things.

Those volunteers who have taken over aspects of the functioning of this club have done a great job. But it is always good to have backup for these positions. If this was a company, we would train people as backups. Even our hard-working NJMA chairpersons need vacations every once in a while. So, if any position interests you, ask the chairperson if you can help them.

The following are the chairperson positions:

Forays: Nina Burghardt
Recorder: John Burghardt
Education: Luke Smithson
Newsletter Editor: Jim Richards
Newsletter Layout/Graphics: Jin

Newsletter Layout/Graphics: Jim Barg Robert H. Peabody Library: Jim Richards

Mycophagy: Jim Richards
Photo Contest: Jim Barg
Social Media: Maricel Patino
Outreach: (open position)
Cultivation: Stefanie Bierman
Membership: Igor Safonov
Holiday: Virginia Tomat
Herbarium: Dorothy Smullen

Culinary Group: Marja Van Ouwerkerk, Jim Richards

Historian: Phil Layton Dyeing/Arts: Ursula Pohl Fungus Fest: (open position)

In 2021, NJMA celebrates its 50th anniversary as an all-volunteer organization. So when you see the people who make this club function wonderfully, let them know that they are appreciated.

– Frank Marra

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EDITOR'S NOTES

I was beginning to think that this column would never get written, but here we go again – finally! I won't bore you with the details; they are not very interesting.

Unfortunately, the delay in publication of this issue has allowed time for us to have to report that four of our members have died this summer. You will find their obituaries on pages 14 - 16. In a club as large as ours, it is getting harder and harder to get to know people, especially during this COVID-enforced separation. Rich Balsley I only knew in passing on forays and at Fungus Fest. Bernice Fatto, her husband Ray and I had been very close for many years, until Ray died and I gave up having a car. Melanie Spock and I were in regular contact until this spring. I would see her at all the Culinary Group functions. When I needed plants for my garden, she was always there to give me some new things to try. They will continue to remind me of her. We exchanged emails about food, mushrooms, and gardening with regularity until this spring, when I stopped receiving replies. I did not know at the time that she had died. I only learned that fairly recently when her sister contacted another member, Ursula Pohl.

The most recent death, that of Liz Broderick, is the most heartbreaking of all. Unlike the others who were older and not in great health, Liz was in the prime of her life. Any time I needed a book reviewed, she was there for me. We worked together on Fungus Fest; I was her contact with the vendors and the supplier of the baked goods for the workers. She helped with running the last several Mycoauctions. The last contact that I had with Liz was an email from her checking in to see how my move was going. It was just like her to be concerned about what friends were doing. I can't remember ever sending her an email that was not answered, even if it was only a couple of words; a comment, a thank you, a question. That was Liz!

I am sure that Hiram Korn would never have imagined, when he began Lakeland Mushroom Club 50 years ago, that mushrooms, especially wild 'shrooms, would be celebrated as food, medicines, and remediators in a National Mushroom Week. Louie Schwartzberg announces that 150,00 people have signed up for a series of events at www.Fantasticfungi.com. The Atlantic magazine published a lengthy article on Amanita phal-

(continues on page 10)

Visit the NJMA Discussion Group



http://tinyurl.com/jjualgz

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 m e. 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.

NJMA History Highlights

by Dorothy Smullen

This issue's featured past member is Ed Bosman (1933-2007). He was a founding member of the club, and in 1972 was the first vice president of the Lakeland Mycology Club under president Hiram Korn. He served as president and newsletter editor from 1973 into 1974 before moving to Connecticut where he founded the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society (CVMS). Ed was also a cofounder of the Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) and a long-time contributor to its success. He gave lectures, field trips and developed multiaccess keys to the genera Tricholoma, Lactarius and Agaricus. He published a paper in McIlvainia on Wynnea sparassoides, a rare species (Note: This species was found at the recent COMA foray in CT). Ed received the NEMF "Eximia" Award in 1975 and 2005. NAMA presented him with the "Contributions to Advancement of Amateur Mycology" Award in 1995. Ed will be remembered by all as a great contributor to Northeast mycology.

After his first wife Joan died, Ed married Roz Lowen (Ascomycete mycologist) and settled in New Hampshire for a few months before his final days.



Nov. 2001 - Photo from NJMA "Club History Program" by Bob Peabody (left to right): Ed Bosman, Hiram Korn and Neal MacDonald

Join us this Tuesday!

Online every Tuesday evening at 7:00PM on ZOOM!

Download the ZOOM app to your phone, computer, or tablet and have digital photos of your mushrooms ready to present to the group.

Watch your email for details!

A RETURN TO **MYCOPHAGIST'S CORNER?**

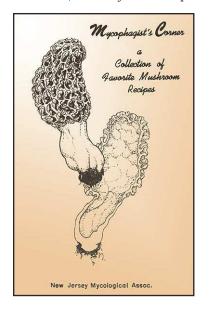
by Jim Richards

From 1975 to 1979, three NJMA News editors (Vic Gambino, Dorothy Smullen, and Melanie Spock) wrote a column on mushroom cookery, with recipes contributed by club members and wonderful illustrations by Neal MacDonald. (As a parting thank you for all she did for NJMA, two of the pages edited by Melanie Spock are included on *pages 11* and *13*).

The recipes from Mycophagist's Corner were collected by Bob Peabody in a booklet that was sold at NJMA events as a fund raiser. Sadly, Bob omitted crediting the cooks that created the recipes, as well as Neal's drawings with the sole exception of the morel on the cover.

I would like to see NJMA reprint Mycophagist's Corner with the attributions for the recipes as well as Neal's artwork returned. It could be updated with recipes from cooks who have joined NJMA after Mycophagist's Corner was discontinued in 1979. It will be a bit harder to get drawings to accompany the recipes. Hopefully, some of NJMA's artists will step forth to fill that gap. (It does not need to be done by one person; a mix would be fine) I am sure it would also be of great interest to our members if the Corner were to re-appear regularly in NJMA News. If no one else is interested, I am willing to give it a try (*njmaeditor@gmail.com* until December 31st).

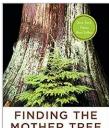
(see two of Melanie Spock's recipes on pages 11 and 13)



Bob Peabody assembled this recipe pamphlet from recipes printed in the Mycophagists's Corner column in old editions of NJMA News. Perhaps we will return it to print?

BOOK REVIEW FINDING THE MOTHER TREE DISCOVERING THE WISDOM OF THE FOREST

a review by Bob (Wildcat) Saunders



Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest

by Suzanne Simard

Knopf (May 4, 2021) 368 pages

ISBN-10: 052565609X ISBN-13: 978-0525656098

MOTHER TREE Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest SUZANNE SIMARD

This is the most interesting and informative book I have read in years, no question.

It is the story of the life, the research and growing understanding by the discoverer of the "Wood Wide Web". Suzanne Simard is the result of several generations of foresters in western Canada, who became interested in the lives and interrelationships of the trees and fungi of the forests. With rigorous scientific discipline, she worked out how trees and mycorrhizae communicate and share resources in a vast trading network. Her book tells of her personal life without holding back, and tells how she investigated the "Web" in rigorous scientific detail.

Starting out working for a lumber company, she wondered why replanting clear-cut forests was not working — newly planted trees were dying. She grew to question the Forest Service "free to grow" policy that was based on the idea that trees and other plants competed fiercely. With over 130 careful experiments over a career of decades, she worked out the real relationships. Mature trees share resources through a network of fungal hyphae with their own progeny, with unrelated trees, and even trees of other species. The resources include carbon (sugar), water, nitrogen, defensive toxins, amino acids, and other minerals. All the players in the network cooperated. In scientifically rigorous, controlled, randomized experiments, peerreviewed and published experiments, she used radioactive carbon tracing and root barriers to pry out the secrets of the forest. At the same time, she fought an epic battle with the Forest Service policy-makers (not very successfully) to prove that forests grow based on cooperation, not competition.

Her experiments clearly showed that mixed forests, including fungi, produce more total wood volume than mono-cultured forests. Clear cut, herbicide treated forests, replaced with single species (lumber crops) were unsuccessfully replanted and soon died without the support of the mycorrhizal network. Artificial fertilizer short-circuited the process. Trees did not then need to trade for minerals, so fungi died off and its other functions were denied to the community.

Much of the work depended on the realization that the biomass of a forest is about half underground. The root tips and the hyphae mesh in fascinating ways, and there is so much constantly going on beneath our feet we can hardly understand it. Each spoonful of soil contains hundreds of miles of microscopic fungal hyphae, all connected, and billions of creatures.

Green plants can make fuel (carbon, i.e. sugar) which mushrooms can't. Mushrooms expand the reach of the roots, absorbing water and minerals that tree roots can't reach, in exchange for the carbon. But mature trees ("Mother Trees") act as hubs for the trading networks that pass fuel to trees that are so young and shaded that they can't produce their own. They pass fuel and defensive toxins to trees under attack by insects or browsers. The networks pass messages just as computer networks do. One Mother Tree was traced with connections with 47 others. Even as they die, Mother Trees release resources to other connected plants. Her colleague found that half the carbon produced by trees is stored underground, in roots, soils and fungi. The fungi act as defense for the trees, as well — our favorite Oyster Mushrooms have hyphae that are sticky as flypaper, acting to trap and digest destructive nematodes. She discovered, and proved, that a forest is a cooperative community.

Her book is interwoven with the story of her life. Her family was very important: The breakup of her parents, and the accidental death of her brother, had a great impact on her. She discusses her marriage, the stresses that broke it up, and the women friends she became close to. Her career is recounted as it advanced from forester to Professor. Her battle with breast cancer is an honest account. As a biography alone, it is an interesting book.

Because she gives details of the meticulous scientific procedures of her experiments, it is a handbook for researchers. Because she is so involved in the nature around her, it is an adventure story, too. Being treed by a bear or paced by wolves are not usual hazards of scientists. Her writing is so descriptive and lyrical at times that it borders on the poetic.

But the real reason to read this book is to learn an enormous amount about the unsuspected workings of the nature around us. Please read it!

DONATION TO OUR LIBRARY

The NJMA Robert H. Peabody Library recently received a group of twelve mushroom books along with 70 issues of Mushroom, The Journal from Beth Kayros. The library belonged to her father, Robert Kayros, who was a member of NJMA from 2008 until his death in 2013. The titles that Beth donated are duplicates of ones already in our library, but they will be used to replace copies that are in poor condition; a few of those include Mushrooms Demystified (Arora), Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide (Smith), and Growing Gourmet and Medicinal Mushrooms (Stamets). Thank you, Beth, for your generosity.



A mystery?

When people know you are into mushrooms, you are very likely to get mystery packages left on your doorstep – as I did on Monday.

The mushrooms proved to be *Stropharia rugosoannulata* (Wine caps) – an OK edible species.

But, since I had no idea who left them, or where they were collected (I often see them in mulched areas near streets), they went into the trash can. If you are leaving someone a present, let them know where, and from whom, it came from.

- Jim Richards



WE NEED YOUR MEMORIES!!!

The excitement and pleasure of having that first dish of morels that you collected? The first tick of the season? That great bowl of Candy Cap Custard that you had at Mycophagy? The first time you actually saw a pleurocystidia under a microscope? These are just a few of the possible memories you have of your experiences as a member of NJMA!

Share your thoughts with fellow members! In the final issue of *NJMA News* in this, our 50th Anniversary Year, we would love to share pages and pages of your thoughts with fellow members.

Send your reminiscences to us at njmaeditor@gmail.com!

YOU CAN WASH YOUR MUSHROOMS!

Most people are told that mushrooms absorb water, so they resort to just brushing them instead of washing them properly. But J. Kenji López-Alt, author of *The Food Lab: Better Home Cooking Through Science*, disproved this old myth with a bit of science. "Mushrooms do absorb water when you wash them, but it's only about 2% of their total weight," says Kenji. And to put that into perspective, that's only 1.5 teaspoons of water per pound of mushrooms — so it's really nothing to worry about. An additional 15 to 30 seconds of cooking time is enough to cook off that amount of water, so go ahead and wash the dirt off.

NJMA ANNUAL ELECTION 2021

NJMA holds an annual election of Officers and Trustees. Normally, this would be conducted at our November meeting, but current circumstances do not allow us to meet in person. Therefore, we will be holding a virtual election this year.

This notice introduces the proposed slate and reminds our membership that they have the opportunity to run for any of these positions. It also briefly outlines the process that our virtual election will follow.

To run for office, one must be a "member in good standing" (that is, a member for more than a full year (cutoff date is October 19th, 2020) and be paid up in their dues) and submit a petition with signatures from 30 members. A description of the positions and the election process can be viewed in the Members Only section of our website at http://www.njmyco.org

The following positions are open: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two of five Trustees

The NJMA Nomination Committee submits the following slate of candidates:

President: Sue McClary
Vice President: Stef Bierman
Treasurer: Igor Safonov
Secretary: Lyla Meader
Trustee: Dorothy Smullen

(to fill unexpired term of Liz Broderick for 2022)

Trustee: Maricel Patino (to fill term 2022 to 2026)

Election Timeline:

November 15, 2021: Deadline to submit a petition to run. November 22, 2021: Election via electronic ballot starts. December 5, 2021: All votes are due by midnight. Results will be tallied the following day and announcements made shortly thereafter.

January 1, 2022: All winners begin their official duties.

In lieu of a petition containing 30 signatures, the NJMA nominating committee will accept 30 electronic (email) letters of reference. A simple "I nominate Jane Doe for the position of trustee" is sufficient. The 30-day-prior-to-the-election deadline is waived. Nominations can be emailed to Luke Smithson: mycofreak74@gmail.com.



CHESTNUT BRANCH FORAY AUGUST 8, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our foray at Chestnut Branch Park was held in the woods along the banks of the Chestnut Branch of Mantua Creek in Mantua Township. The site is about six miles as the crow flies from where the Mantua Creek joins the Delaware River in Paulsboro, NJ, across from the Philadelphia Airport. The site has a nice mix of mature hardwoods, including some species that we don't see further north. We thought that conditions would be dry, and rain threatened. In fact, the ravine carrying the creek seemed to have retained more moisture than the surrounding area. And the rain held off.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. It includes about 60 taxa, dominated by gilled mushrooms, boletes, and polypores. We found many familiar, frequently collected taxa, as well as a few new or unusual ones. I like to look on the internet for the infrequently collected species to gauge whether these are uncommon, or simply not well known to us. Below is a brief description and links to photos for three infrequently collected species.

Agaricus vinosobrunneofumidus has been collected in all three of our visits to Chestnut Branch Park. See Igor Safonov's *Mushroom Observer* observations #295495 from Wells Mill Park in Ocean County in 2017 and #288254 from Wharton State Forest in 2018 for good photos. Igor's 2018 observation was confirmed by Dr. Rick Kerrigan, who first described this as a new species in 2016. So far, this looks like an infrequently collected species that shows up regularly at Chestnut Branch. Interestingly, I believe the elements of the Latin species name, "vinos" means wine-colored, "brunneo" means brown, and "fumidus" means smoky - describes the color of the cap.

Laetiporus persicinus is a cousin of the chicken of the woods (Laetiporus sulfureus, also found at Chestnut Branch this year). Maricel identified this species for the first time at an NJMA foray on July 27, 2021 at Meadowood Park, Mendham Township. Based on Mushroom Observer observations, it appears to be widely distributed in the southern part of the US, including Virginia and Maryland. See MO # 459234, a recent collection from Florida identified by Alan Rockefeller.

Hypomyces armeniacus is a parasite that appears on Russula fruiting bodies as a spider web-like covering. See Maricel's photo from Meadowood Park and John Plischke's comment on Maricel's *iNaturalist* observation (*iNaturalist* #88771388). It also appears to be widely distributed.

To view observations on *Mushroom Observer*, go to *https://mushroomobserver.org*, find the search function, and enter the observation number or species name. To view observations on iNaturalist, go to *https://www.inaturalist.org* and do the same.

Thanks to everyone for the many good collections, help with sorting at the tables, and help in assigning names. Right or wrong, we appreciate it when newcomers look at their specimens, look at the photos and descriptions in the field guides, and attempt to assign a name. Please let me know if you have questions or see an error or omission. I hope to see everyone again soon.

GREEN TURTLE POND FORAY AUGUST 15, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Another dry August week preceded our foray at Green Turtle Pond on August 15, 2021, and rain was threatening as we drove to northern Passaic County. Upon arriving at the Wildlife Management Area parking lot, I was pleased to see a huge puddle. Unfortunately, the puddle must have been there for several days. The hilly, rocky area around the lake was quite dry except for an occasional damp spot created by a small stream entering the lake, and the edges of the lake itself. Still our group found a diverse, interesting collection of fungi.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. The list includes about 70 taxa, dominated by gilled mushrooms, polypores, and tooth fungi. The large number of tooth fungi was a surprise. We seldom see so many different tooth fungi. Fortunately, two of our veteran dyers were present, Ursula Pohl and Liz Broderick. The species collected in the genera Hydnellum, Phellodon, and Sarcodon, are all excellent dyers. So we got more names on unusual tooth fungi than we might have otherwise.

An interesting fact about the dyers is that despite their hard, woody nature all dyers are mycorrhizal. They obtain their food energy from the products of photosynthesis by trees, and in return help their host plants take up minerals and water from the soil. Similarly, all the Corals (genus Ramaria), fan-shaped fungi (genus Thelephora), and Earthstars (genus Scleroderma) that we collected on Sunday are mycorrhizal.

As often happens, our list includes several interesting mysteries. Below are brief comments on four collections.

Amanita sect Amidella. Nina brought this desiccated little Amanita home and sent a picture of it to Igor. Igor thought it might be an undescribed member of Amanita sect. Amidella. It will go for DNA analysis.

Bankera cf. violascens. We are not sure whether this sturdy tooth fungus is a member of genus Bankera or (continues on next page)



genus Phellodon, but its white spore print eliminates genus Hydnellum and genus Sarcodon, which both have brown spores. This name is a place holder pending further investigation.

Ramaria roseola. This is new to the NJMA list. Liz posted an observation of it to Mushroom Observer, where you can see her photos (MO #464809) and those of three other collections of this taxon. Liz mentions using an app from the Mycological Federation of Quebec. Nina also has this on her iPad, which always goes to the woods in her backpack. I don't have the app. I find the MycoQuebec website extremely helpful (www.mycoquebec.org). It has photos and descriptions of over 3000 fungi. The descriptions are in French, but Google Translate does an adequate job of translating the unfailingly excellent brief descriptions of each species covered.

Russula cf. praeumbonata. This is a very unusual, seldom-collected species. As best I can tell from MycoPortal, it has never been collected in New Jersey. It was included in the Kibby/Fatto Key to Russula of the Northeastern United States based on the original description by Gertrude Burlingham in 1921. These seldom-collected taxa are often difficult to pin down with confidence. But I am pretty sure our species is not this taxon, based on the shape of its cap, features of its gills, and the sturdiness of its stipe (despite insect damage and dry conditions).

Thanks to everyone for the many good collections despite dry conditions. We also appreciate all the help with sorting, describing and assigning names.

STOKES STATE FOREST FORAY AUGUST 29, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our late summer foray at Stokes State Forest Kittle Field section is often one of our most productive forays. This year was no exception – so many mushrooms, so little time.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. It includes nearly 200 taxa. An explanation of the table format is below in the body of this email. The list also includes links to photos on the Mushroom Observer and iNaturalist websites posted by Dave Wasilewski (DW) and Maricel Patino (MP). I believe you can paste the web addresses provided into your web browser to reach the observation. Both of these web sites are well worth a look if you are new to collecting. This week's list also includes a nice selection of lichens that Dorothy Smullen identified. Thanks to Dorothy, Maricel, and Dave for these contributions.

Thanks to everyone for the many good collections, and for all the help sorting and assigning names. Please let me know of additions or corrections to the list.

SCHERMAN HOFFMAN FORAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our first foray at Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary in Bernardsville was held on the fourth day after Hurricane Ida had raked our area with drenching rains. It had been quite dry before Ida struck so, early in the week, we had been wondering what we might find in dry conditions. Instead, we got to see what fungi were beginning to emerge after the waters from an exceptionally heavy rain had receded. The group I was with followed Dorothy's lead down the hill toward a small stream - always a good place to look for fungi when it is dry. The ground looked "scrubbed" and we began looking for areas with ferns, which seemed to have protected fungi above ground from the force of the rushing water. It turned out there were lots of fungi to look at along the stream, and we also encountered a beautiful Blue Heron, who stood around looking at us before launching into the air. From all the material the group brought back to the tables, it seems like the fungi kept doing their thing.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. The list includes a nice selection of lichens that were identified by Dorothy Smullen. One unusual find is *Leucopholiota decorosa* ("decorated" white Pholiota). It looked, for all the world, like a Pholiota with little brown squamules on the white cap and light colored gills with a brownish tint that were suggestive of a brown spore print (a key Pholiota trait). Nina was not so sure it was a Pholiota without seeing clear evidence of a brown spore print on the fruiting body. So she took the collection home to get a spore print, which turned out to be white, not brown. A spore print can be really helpful!

Thanks to everyone for the many good collections, and for help sorting and assigning names. Special thanks to Dorothy Smullen for arranging and leading the foray on very short notice. We are grateful to the Audubon Society for allowing us to collect at their preserve.

WAWAYANDA FORAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our foray at Wawayanda State Park on September 19, 2021 was a few weeks later in the season than it has been in the past few years. We were hoping to find a nice mix of late summer and early fall species. The fungi did not disappoint. The woods were moist and the fungi were vigorously releasing spores before the weather turns cold. We identified about 130 species.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. Thanks to everyone for tyour participation. Please let me know of additions or corrections to the list. Thanks again.



BRENDAN BYRNE FORAY OCTOBER 3, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our foray at Pakim Pond in Brendan Byrne State Forest was held on October 3, 2021. The date was chosen to avoid an off-road motorcycle event that takes place every fall, and to have mild weather. We were fortunate that the day was mild and calm, and free of motorcylists in a hurry. Although it seemed quite dry and little or no rain had fallen in the week before the visit, our group spread out in small groups and returned with many interesting collections. Thanks to everyone for the many careful collections, and help sorting and assigning names.

The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections. The table shows a nice mix of early fall Pine Barrens fungi. There were still many early fall mycorhizzal species (Amanita, Cortinarius, Laccaria, Lactarius, several members of the Boletaceae, some lingering Cantharellaceae as well as some Hydnum, Hydnellum, Sarcodon and some mychorpuffballs rhizal and earthstars (Lycoperdon, and Scleroderma). Rhizopogon, The Hygrophoraceae are another sign of fall in the Pine Barrens. It was interesting to me that we did not yet see any Tricholoma, or Hebeloma, and only a couple of Inocybe – but these will appear later in October as temperatures drop and daylight becomes shorter.

Thanks again for your interest and hard work, especially the newcomers. Identifying fungi requires attention to detail and can seem overwhelming at first. But I am seeing evidence on the foray tags that we have some good future identifiers coming to the forays. Keep coming.

ESTELL MANOR FORAY OCTOBER 17, 2021

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our foray at Estell Manor Park in Atlantic County was held on October 17, 2021. We met and collected at the north end of the park near the camping area. Trails in this area pass through diverse habitats, and the diversity of our collections reflects this nicely, again. The online .pdf file contains a preliminary list of our identified collections.



A FUNGAL INQUIRY

Hi.

I would greatly appreciate help in identifying this unusual mushroom/fungus that has appeared overnight by my front brick steps (see photo below).

I have never seen its color or shape before. I would have used the Contact Form [on the website], but was not able to include images. I do not use Facebook.

It is about 4 to 6-inches tall, bright orange in color, a very small thin white umbrella-like cap, a wet-looking dark brown substance near the cap, and sort of has the shape of, well, you will see...

Of course, I did not touch it.

I did attempt to search it, but to no success.

Many thanks for directing this inquiry to someone who could help.

Kind regards, Audrey Yankielun

Jim:

You can send Audrey this link that contains a key to 30 species of North American stinkhorns:

https://www.mushroomexpert.com/phallaceae.html

The underlined words on that page are clickable. I think this is either Mutinus elegans or Mutinus ravenelii.

- Igor Safonov

Hi Jim,

Many thanks for the information. The link Igor provided will keep me busy for a while.

They keep popping up in the same area every 10 to 14 days.

Thanks again.

Kind regards, Audrey



WHO'S IN A NAME? Two doubly eponymous species of *Daldinia*

by John Dawson (eighty-fourth in a series)

The genus *Daldinia* was named in honor of Agostino Daldini, a Swiss monk who was born in Vezia on 20 March 1817, the son of Giuseppe Antonio Daldini and Angela Porina, and died in Orselina on 9 May 1895. At the age of eighteen, he became a Capuchin friar, and five years later, was ordained as a Catholic priest. For the next ten years, he lived in Lugano, before entering the sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso in Orselina, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Daldini engaged in a passionate study of many aspects of natural history, especially botany and mycology. Despite limiting his activities to the area around Orselina he amassed a collection of some 650 specimens that are preserved today at the Museo Cantonale di Storia Naturale in Lugano. He also worked with several leading Italian mycologists, especially Giuseppe De Notaris and Vincenzo de Cesati, and, between 1858 and 1855, contributed many specimens to the Italian Cryptogamic Herbarium. From 1861 to 1867, he also "collaborated actively with the editors of the Commentario crittogamico italiano."

A detailed taxonomic history of the genus *Daldinia* is given in the article "A polyphasic taxonomy of *Daldinia* (*Xylariaceae*)" by Marc Stadler *et al.*

There, it is noted that it was De Notaris and Cesati who erected that genus in 1863 to separate from *Hypoxylon* those species having "conspicuous stromata and predominately effused-pulvinate forms." According to *Index Fungorum*, in addition to the genus *Daldinia*, they also named species in seven other genera after Daldini.

The type species for *Daldinia* is *Daldinia* concentrica. But in 1999, J.D. Rogers and Y.M. Ju noted differences between the British and American species bearing that name and renamed the latter *Daldina* childiae, after Marion Child, whose 1932 dissertation at the Missouri Botanical Garden was the first world monograph of the genus *Daldinia*. Unfortunately, I have found no other information about her and no portrait either of her or of Daldini.

The article by Stadler *et al.* lists 45 species of *Daldinia* that were recognized as valid at the time of its publication, and of them, sixteen bear eponymous specific epithets. Several of those species have limited ranges, and some of the individuals honored in their epithets

are either less well known or currently active. But one species that has widespread distribution, including the southern United States and especially the Caribbean, is *Daldinia eschscholtzii*, whose epithet pays tribute to the Baltic German physician and naturalist Johann Friedrich Gustav von Eschscholtz.

Eschscholtz was born in Dorpat, Russia (today's Tartu, Estonia) on 1 November 1793 and died there on 7 May 1831, aged 37 — a short life, but one that was filled with adventurous travel, during which he discovered many botanical and zoological species new to science, of which the California poppy, *Eschscholzia californica*, is perhaps best known.



Johann Friedrich Gustav von Eschscholtz

Eschscholtz was educated at Dorpat University, where he studied medicine and zoology. He received his medical degree in 1815, and almost immediately thereafter, was recommended by Carl Friedrich von Ledebour, a professor of botany Eschscholtz whom assisted, to take part in an expedition commanded by Otto von Kotzebue. Its purpose was to seek a Northwest Passage and to explore the Pacific coast of North America. (Ledebour himself had been invited to go but had declined due to ill health.) Eschscholtz served both as a naturalist and as the ship's surgeon on that voyage, which left Kronstadt on 30 June 1815 and returned to

St. Petersburg in August 1818.

Kotzebue's ship rounded Cape Horn in January 1816, arrived in Kamchatka in July, proceeded on to the Bering Strait and, in September, headed south past the Aleutians to San Francisco. There it docked for over a month, which provided Eschscholtz the opportunity to make many observations and collections of flora and fauna. After leaving San Francisco, the ship sailed on to Hawaii (then called the Sandwich Islands) and the Philippines before rounding Cape Horn again to return to Russia. Kotzebue subsequently published a three-volume account of the voyage, including a report in the last volume on Eschscholtz's discoveries.

The year after his return, Eschscholtz was appointed an assistant professor at Dorpat University and married Christine Friedrike Ledebour (presumably professor Ledebour's daughter). Then, in 1822, he was appointed director of the university's zoological museum and began lecturing on zoology. The next year, however, he

(continues on next page)

was invited to join Kotzebue on a second three-year voyage to the Pacific that visited Polynesia, Alaska and again California, where Eschscholtz collected primarily entomological specimens, including about 100 species of butterflies and twenty of beetles that were new to science. Once again, an account of the voyage was published, this time jointly by Kotzebue and Eschscholtz. In addition, Eschscholtz published descriptions and drawings of the fauna he had observed on that voyage in his *Zoologischer Atlas*, the last part of which appeared in 1833, two years after his death and three years after his promotion to full professor of anatomy at Dorpat.

During his life Eschscholtz held memberships in the Moscow Society of Naturalists, the Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina and the Swiss Society of Natural Science. His collections of specimens were bequeathed to Dorpat University and to the Moscow Society of Naturalists, which later placed them in the Imperial Museum of Moscow.



from Sue McClary:

How a carnivorous mushroom poisons its prey:

https://tinyurl.com/twp42efk

from Gary Makus:

Huitlacoche: The Mexican fungal delicacy that makes corn taste like a mushroom:

https://tinyurl.com/em2fszjx

from Sue McClary:

Food claiming to have "wild mushrooms" rarely does: https://tinyurl.com/z78ssh74

from Sue McClary:

Creating 'real' dairy without cows:

https://tinyurl.com/ytt4up7p

from Sue McClary:

Mushrooms will take fake meat closer to the real thing: https://tinyurl.com/tcx6z94v

from Sue McClary:

Mushrooms have minds?

https://tinyurl.com/mz26jdde

from Sue McClary:

Mushrooms detoxify after wildfires:

https://tinyurl.com/2sbjwju6

from Sue McClary:

Dog caught tripping after eating wild mushroom: https://tinyurl.com/zse5kv7k

from Sue McClary:

Bob Marley's Family Enters Booming Therapeutic Mushroom Industry:

https://tinyurl.com/vphu5vx2

from Sue McClary:

Fungal spores from 250 year old collections given new life: https://tinyurl.com/v7a67zu9

from Sue McClary:

Mushroom growing out of fossilized ant reveals new genus and species of fungal parasite:

https://tinyurl.com/wavv68an



EDITOR'S NOTES (continued from page 2)

loides (The Death Cap) and how it was spreading across the country (*https://www.tinyurl.com/2y2beckm*).

A major newspaper, *The New York Times*, devoted its weekly Veggie column on October 7th to mushroom cookery (nytimes.com).

And NJMA continues to grow and grow as people grow tired of the isolation from the pandemic. More and more people who now work at home are finding that they have more free time without the commute. Along with wanting to get out more, for trying "healthier foods", and "getting back to nature," they are discovering the new NJMA website and Facebook group. The virtual Taxonomy sessions and occasional virtual lectures have turned out to be an unexpected benefit from COVID-19 and I expect that they will continue even as we are able to get back to "normal".

It is going to be very interesting to see what happens when NJMA is able to begin "social" events again: the Fall through Spring lectures, the Wild Foods Foray, the fall Picnic at Stokes, Mycophagy, Culinary Group dinners, the Vic Gambino Summer Weekend, and the big one, Fungus Fest, which regularly draws a crowd of several hundred visitors.

As NJMA rapidly approaches a four figure membership, space is going to be at a premium at all live events. It is a great "problem" to have to deal with. New Jersey is unique in relation to most other major clubs in that our membership is so widely spread across the state. We are fortunate that New Jersey is such a small state. The other large clubs are based in major metropolitan areas – New York, Boston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver – with meeting sites close to public transportation.

- Jim Richards

Mycophagist's Corner

<u>Suillus granulatus</u> gets its name from the tan to reddish-brown or almost blackish glandular dots which cover the stipe and tube mouths of this bolete. The convex pileus is 4-15 cm. in diameter, and rusty brown to cinnamon colored when moist and yellowish when dry. A sticky translucent glutenous layer which covers the cap causes it to appear blotched or streaked.

The pale yellow stipe measures 2-5 cm. long by approximately 1 cm. thick; it is dry and has no annulus. The soft, elastic flesh is whitish to pale yellow and does not stain when bruised, although grub channels appear pinkish. Sometimes a light greenish tint appears between the tubes and the pileus flesh. The tubes are whitish to pale yellow, short, with small tube mouths (about 2 to a mm). They are adnexed to subdecurrent.

Although sometimes found in spring, <u>S. granulatus</u> generally occurs in late summer and fall in open pine (usually white pine) woods.



Since dirt and materials stick to the glutenous cap, Greta suggests cleaning this mushroom well before using. She suggests frying it in butter and adding eggs, to make scrambled eggs and mushrooms. It could be added to soups with other mushrooms or used in stews.

Suillus grànulatus the GRANULATED BOLETUS

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW NJMA MEMBERS!

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following members who joined us between July 1, 2021 and August 31, 2021. We look forward to seeing you at lectures, forays, and other NJMA events as they resume! Happy 'shrooming!

Robert Alberding	Brick, NJ
Sameeh Ali	Willingboro, NJ
Stacey Austin	Brooklawn, NJ
Anitha Balagangadharan	Edison, NJ
Evangelia Balaskas	Rockaway, NJ
Joan Bambrick (Sincoskie)	Middletown, NJ
Sandro Bianco	Plainsboro, NJ
Christine Bielaszka	Clifton, NJ
Carson Booth	Yardley, PA
Jessica Borden	Hammonton, NJ
Nicolette Brady	Keyport, NJ
Ellen Britz (Gerber)	Bloomingdale, NJ
Eric & Tara Canavera	Highland Park, NJ
Carly Chaapel	Clayton, NJ
Karly Cleary	Southampton, PA
Christopher Condon Christopher Cordova	Orange, NJ Newark, NJ
Edward Daisey	Hillsborough, NJ
Doug DeCarlo	New York, NY
Elaine Dellande	Fountain Hill, PA
Amanda Dudziak-Decker	Newton, NJ
Michael J. Eckert, Sr.	Gibbsboro, NJ
Randall (Randy) Eide	Madison, WI
Tamar Eilam	New York
Suzanne Emering	Rockaway NJ
Wenya Fan	North Brunswick, NJ
Janelle Filer	Waterford Works, NJ
Victoria Grace Fitz	New Jersey
Jana George (Lame)	Egg Harbor Twp., NJ
Richard Giannetti	Waldwick, NJ
Jason Glazner	Iselin, NJ
Stephen C. Goshorn	Hopewell, NJ
Juliana Hafele	Pitman, NJ
Goni Halevi	Princeton, NJ
Robert D. Harper	Mount Laurel, NJ
Kyra Haughney	Keyport, NJ
Matthew Scott Hayden	Clayton, NJ
Kristina Hedbacker	New York, NY
Sudhir Hedge	Lakewood, NJ
Sydney Hilton	Neptune, NJ
Rachel Howard	Medford Lakes, NJ
Candice Innabi	Cape May, NJ
Valeria Izeppi	Washington, NJ
Abraham Jacinto Grace Jacobs	Newton, NJ Milford, PA
Olivia Jan	Hoboken, NJ
Deividas (Dave) Jeskevicius	Vernon, NJ
Nancy Johnson	Manasquan, NJ
Michael J. Jorgensen	East Orange, NJ
Kevin Joy	Long Branch, NJ
Wendy Kambestad	New Providence, NJ
Kellie Kegan	West Orange, NJ
Brian Kelly	Maplewood, NJ
Alexandra Khovov	Hillside, NJ
Kelley Klein	Delanco, NJ
Elena Korshunova	Fair Lawn, NJ
Nicole C. Kozlowski (Kalaigian)	Neptune, NJ
Hilary A. Landfried	Princeton, NJ
Kerry Langan	Bloomfield, NJ
Oksana Leonovich	New Milford, NJ
Yajing Li	West Orange, NJ
Samantha Loscalzo	West Milford, NJ
Robin Luckritz-Ullrich	Franklin Lakes, NJ
David MacFarlane	Haddon Twp., NJ
Elizabeth A. Marchese	Hardwick, NJ
Michael Mariano	Dumont, NJ
Orsolya Marlok	Clifton, NJ

William P. McGovern	Bloomfield, NJ
Noel McInerney	Sparta, NJ
Liam McWilliams	Brooklyn, NY
Talia Miller	Highland Lakes, NJ
Angela Mordan	East Brunswick, NJ
Jacob Morrison	Paterson, NJ
Nicole (Nikki) Nalbone	Trenton, NJ
Patty M. Nalbone	Lawrenceville, NJ
Ayelet Nathaniel	Closter, NJ
Marie Neilson	West Grove, PA
Ann M. Nolan	
	North Brunswick, NJ Maplewood, NJ
Samantha Normandia	* ' '
Christina Notas	Bridgewater, NJ
Casey O'Connell	Hazlet, NJ
Vita Papernov	Chatham, NJ
Cameron Partridge	Costa Mesa, CA
Lawrence Perfetti	Highland Park, NJ
Wilma Peterson	Hawthorne, NJ
Leslie A. Peterson	New Jersey?
David Pette	Annandale, NJ
Yu (Jade) Pu	Woodbridge, NJ
Grace Rademacher	Hazlet, NJ
Maria Ann Re	Sussex, NJ
Charles Rivera	Brooklyn, NY
Lizette Rodriguez	Ocean Twp., NJ
Donna Rosato-Brady	Keyport, NJ
Joanna Rzucidlo	Franklin, NJ
Merike Safka	Cinnaminson, NJ
Catherine D. Salas	Lakewood, NJ
Carissa Samonte-Cam	Bethlehem, PA
Anna Sarkisova	Mount Laurel, NJ
Jocelyn Schwartz	Northfield, NJ
Justin Scotti	Hamburg, NJ
Kamyar Shafaie	Summit, NJ
Joseph & Margie Shepherd	Cinnaminson, NJ
Anna Shersher	East Brunswick, NJ
James Singleton	West Orange, NJ
Iwona Skiba	Hamilton, NJ
Derek Smith	Easton, PA
Trevor Smith	Keyport, NJ
Daniel Smoliga	Branchburg, NJ
Rose Soskind	Plainsboro, NJ
Stephanie Sosnovik (Goodlow)	Columbia, NJ
Angel Souto	Union, NJ
	1 1
Maximillian Spann	Annandale, NJ
Karl & Elizabeth Stolze	Randolph, NJ
Loretta Stratton	Wyckoff, NJ
Robert Suplicki	Lake Hopatcong, NJ
Joanna Szymanska	Piscataway, NJ
Brian Teasdale	Cranford, NJ
Elizabeth Timofeeva	Ridgewood, NJ
Robert Townsend	Voorhees, NJ
Gregory Trifonov	Beachwood, NJ
Jasmine Urzo	Nutley, NJ
Robert Valles	Ringwood, NJ
Caleigh Vazquez	Cape May, NJ
3.6 1 3.7 1	Voorhees, NJ
Marius Vermeulen	
Vladimir Voronov	Livingston, NJ
	Livingston, NJ Jersey City, NJ
Vladimir Voronov	Jersey City, NJ
Vladimir Voronov William & Morgan Welch Moses E. Wendel	Jersey City, NJ Franklin Lakes, NJ
Vladimir Voronov William & Morgan Welch Moses E. Wendel Zuzana Wibmer (Jonackova)	Jersey City, NJ Franklin Lakes, NJ New York, NY
Vladimir Voronov William & Morgan Welch Moses E. Wendel	Jersey City, NJ Franklin Lakes, NJ

Mycophagist's Corner

Clitocybe robusta Pk. syn. Clitocybe alba (bat.)Sing., is known as the stout clitocybe. The thick, firm, white convex cap becomes plane, sometimes depressed, bald, with a decurved margin. The flesh is white; the gills, narrow, close, decurrent, whitish; the stem, stout, short, solid, bald, tapering upward slightly, often bulbuous at the base; white elliptical spores, 8 x 4-5 u. The cap is 3-4 inches across, the stem measures 1-2 inches long by ½ to 3/4 inch thick. C. robusta can be found in woods among debris from September to late fall, even after frosts. Charles McIlvaine says "this fungus is wuite plentiful in Pennsylvania and in open oak woods in New Jersey. Its size and sometimes gregarious growth give it a permanent food value. Its texture is coarse, but when cooked it is highly satisfactory."

Graham's Gratin

Graham Peabody (age 8) comes back for seconds on this one. Rub a shallow baking dish with a fresh slice of garlic and then grease generously with sweet butter. Slice thinly one pound of new potatoes with skins on. Place half the potatoes overlapping in the bottom of a dish, season with freshly grated pepper and finely chopped parsley. (Also



salt if you must) Slice a half pound of <u>C. robusta</u> (or any other coarse mushroom) and arrange on top of potatoes. Season again and arrange remaining potatoes on top of mushrooms. Pour a mixture of one cut light cream and ½ sup water over contents. Grate several tablespoons of your favorite hard aged cheese and sprinkle over top. Dot with butter and bake at 350° for 75 minutes.

Thanks to Bob Peabody for this month's Mycophagy Corner and Neal MacDonald for the illustration.

Clitocybe robustà Peck. C. Alba (Bat.) Singer

In memory of...

MELANIE SPOCK (1948-2021)

Melanie died in May, 2021. She was a member of NJMA for over 40 years. She served as recording secretary, newsletter editor and trustee, as well as being very active in the aesthetics committee (mushroom dyeing and papermaking). A member of NAMA for 35 years, she also chaired the Mushroom Dye and Papermaking Committee. Melanie and her mother, Viola, were longtime attendees of the International Fungi and Fiber Symposium. She displayed her mushroom dyed silks in Finland, Norway, USA and other countries. Melanie was also a guest lecturer on mushroom dyes for a class at Rutgers for about 20 years.

Representing NJMA, Melanie collected and identified mushrooms at every Union County Bio-blitz for 12 years.

An avid gardener, Melanie was a certified Master Gardener for 25 years, and volunteered at Wagner Farm Arboretum and Duke Farms growing food for the needy.





BERNICE FATTO (1929-2021)

Bernice died on August 18, 2021, aged 92, in Hillsborough, NJ where she lived. She served as illustrator and newsletter art editor of NJMA for many vears. She was also an active volunteer at many Fungus Fests where she sold her beautiful Ganoderma art.

She was a graduate of Pratt Institute, a member of Watercolorists Unlimited, recording secretary of the Garden State Watercolor Society, former art teacher for Watchung Hills Enrichment Program and Director of the Art department of Immaculata High School.

Bernice was the loving wife of Raymond Fatto, who died in 2003. Ray, past NJMA president, co-authored Keys to the species of Russula in Northeastern North America with Geoffrey Kibby. Ray's dried specimens are housed at the New York Botanical Garden and our own club herbarium.





In memory of...





LIZ BRODERICK (1950-2021)

It is with great sadness that we must announce that our dear friend Liz Broderick died tragically on Wednesday, October 20, after being struck by a car while walking near her home. No further details are currently available.

Liz first joined NJMA in 1991, and has been a consistent member since 2013. An active club member, Liz was known by many for her amicable and lively personality and significant contributions to the NJMA community. Liz attended many forays, and was a key participant of the ongoing Franklin Parker Pre-serve project. Liz has chaired our bi-annual Victor Gambino Foray since 2014 and co-chaired Fungus Fest in 2015 before taking over Fungus Fest as the chair the following year. Liz has also been a club trustee since 2018.

Liz always made people feel welcome at club events and always had a caring, gentle approach in teaching newcomers the ropes of the mushroom world. In a small glimmer of happiness, her family reports that in the end, Liz was "happy, on good terms with everyone and doing what she loved...picking mushrooms". We are extremely heartbroken to lose such a generous, wonderful friend.

We will miss you, Liz!

With much love,

Your friends in NJMA









In memory of...

RICHARD BALSLEY (1938-2021)

Dr. Richard B. Balsley, 83, died August 25, 2021. He was a long-time member of NJMA and passionate about the study of mycology. His acre of land in Hunterdon County is filled with old-growth oak trees, and each year, produced an assortment of various types of mushrooms. He enjoyed talking with everyone about his property, which he called Oakmoss Mycological Preserve, and the amazing variety of fungi, plants and animals found there. Most people were surprised that this small plot, in one year, produced 11 pounds of edible chanterelles and in another year nine pounds of edible chicken-of-the-woods.

In 1988, he attended his first Fungus Fest and began friendships with mycologists that lasted for decades. His good friends in mycology included local experts like Gene Varney and Ray Fatto, as well as experts from other parts of the country such as Nancy Smith Webber, Matt Smith and Jim Trappe.

Based on Ray Fatto's work, he developed an improved system for classifying russulas and produced instruction/identification books which he distributed at meetings and conferences. His technique included chemical



analysis of samples with ferrous sulfate and analysis of dried samples by ultraviolet light which shows distinctive bright coloration for different species. He has left behind 25 boxes of herbarium-ready Russulas (approximately 1,500 individual samples, along with spore samples), each carefully labeled and precisely described when harvested. Frank Marra, NJMA President, has graciously offered to facilitate transfer of these samples to any individual or organization who could use them for research or safe storage for some future project.

Rich was active in NJMA, NEMF and NAMA and attended many forays and conferences. He traveled to forays at Rutgers Creek, Peck forays in NY and PA, plus many other forays in CT, NY and PA. He also attended meetings and forays at NAMA in West Virginia and Cape Cod and at NEMF in VT. He was honored when a new species discovered growing in his yard was named Genea balsleyi.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years Susan E. Balsley, his son Richard Balsley, Jr. (Lebanon, NJ), his son John Balsley and his wife Deborah (Bridgewater, NJ) and his daughter Elizabeth Gross and her husband Dr. Glenn Gross (Philadelphia).



FORAY PHOTOS NEEDED FOR NJMA NEWS

If you've recently been to a foray and have been taking pictures, why not share with NJMA through NJMA News by emailing a few of them to jimbargg5@mac.com.

We accept photos in .jpg or RAW format (which are the default settings for most digital cameras and mobile phone cameras anyway). If you have people in your photos, you must have their permission to be in the photo (and their names for the caption) in order for us to be able to publish it.

Name your files with your suggested caption and your name, for example, a photo of a chicken mushroom might carry a file name of "Chicken Mushroom at Stokes Foray, photo by Jane Smith.jpg'