NJMA NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 54-4 FALL (OCTOBER – DECEMBER) 2024

Flammulina velutipes

Enoki, Enokitake, Velvet Foot *(wild form)*

One of the few mushrooms to fruit on certain hardwoods in cold weather, this is the wild form of the common supermarket mushroom Enoki, which has a very different appearance when cultivated in dark, restricted spaces.

PHOTO BY JIM BARG

WHAT'S INSIDE:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings NJMA members!

Alas, it has turned out to be a very dry year for mushrooms, but a great Fall for just being outside. I hope you were able to get out and enjoy the woods and perhaps find something that surprised you. Each week, on Taxonomy Tuesday, there's always something to look at and discuss. A newcomer or seasoned hand can share a cool find. We all learn and catch some enthusiasm from each other!

The "pseudo-mini" Fungus Fest at the Pineland Preservation Alliance (PPA) Nature Fest was small but NJMA made an impact and helped draw in people to celebrate PPA's 35th anniversary. Nina Burghardt and I led some members of the public on a walk and gave them a taste of the NJMA foray experience. Emily Rawlins and Brandon Roddy joined in to help with finds/IDs. Sue McClary and Dorothy Smullen staffed the display tables all day; Jason Hafstad joined them after noon, and Nina gave a mushroom talk. Others pitched in to help, too, and I thank you all.

I happened to be in the Albany, NY area the weekend of the Peck Foray, so I attended as much as I could and met lots of eager college students, Dr. Patricia Kaishian, Curator of Mycology at the NYS Museum, Dr. Kathie Hodge, and Dr. Theresa Iturriaga, both of Cornell University. These were a dedicated group, many sleeping in tents and working hard at microscopes to identify their finds and share knowledge freely with each other. One of the students even made it to NEMF 2024 foray the next weekend. Now that the Peck Foray is on the radar, I hope some young NJMA members will attend and benefit from the experience.

NEMF's Annual Samuel Ristich Foray this year was on Cape Cod. Significant rain had fallen several days prior. It was delightful to spot Amanitas while driving and to find the ground covered in *Suillus* at a rest stop. The lectures and workshops were well worth it. The keynotes by Noah Siegel and Todd Elliott (both of whom were smitten with fungi as children) were entertainining, complete with beautiful photos,

Next year's annual NEMF foray will be in the Ithaca, NY area and will be hosted at a Girl Scout campground. The theme for that foray is "Women in Mycology – Following in the Footsteps of Peck".

The NJMA forays and the various regional forays are great experiences that hopefully more will partake of in 2025 and beyond. *(Note: NJMA is part of the NEMF foray host group in 2026.)*

I'm looking forward to the NJMA Holiday Party on December 8th. This potluck event is always festive and tasty and will be the place where our Photo Contest submissions and winning shots will be revealed. The prizes are special this year to celebrate the return of the contest. A "People's Choice" winner will be selected during the party. See you there!

– Lyla

EDITOR'S NOTES

For many of us, the last half of the foray season was a disappointment. You can see that in the foray reports' species counts. The rainfall in North Jersey kept my area's grass green, but the south lacked rain for fungi.

So what do members do at forays when the area fails to get rainfall? There will be more than just dried polypores! Search for fleshy fungi near the rivers, streams, lakes, or walk in boggy areas. Foray sites are chosen because they reliably produce fungi. Expect to see more small or tiny fungi. You should take pictures especially when you collect small fungi. Once at the foray table, small fungi may dry out and be unrecognizable. At a dry foray, maybe only one person will find a big edible fall fungus for everyone to see. So now is the time to practice your observational skills on small fungi. Look at the gill edges and shapes and colors. You just might just find and be able to post an observation of a less commonly reported species (*e.g.*, *Atheniella adonis* MO#561824). I needed more than a little help from others online and offline to get to this genus and species, and I wouldn't normally walk in a bog, but sometimes you are desperate to find fungi to share with new members.

As in-person foray season comes to a close, it does not mean there are no fungi. If you find fungi, please tune in to NJMA's Taxonomy Tuesdays on Zoom and share with others. The link is sent to our members every week via email. As members cease to find fungi, the focus of Taxonomy Tuesday will change, but it will continue to occur weekly.

– Sue McClary

Visit the NJMA Discussion Group

facebook

http://tinyurl.com/jjualgz

NORTHEAST RARE FUNGI CHALLENGE!

FUNGAL DIVERSITY SURVEY

Calling all citizen scientists! FunDiS wants your help in recording rare, under-documented, and/or threatened species of the Northeast. This challenge runs from July 1, 2022 through December of 2027. For more information on how to participate, click here.

NJMA FALL OUTREACH 2024

by Sue McClary

This fall, NJMA was less busy with public events than in the springtime when Earth Day/Green Community events dominate. If we had a wetter summer, we probably would have gotten more fall event invites because mushrooms would have been on everyone's mind. We did, however, manage to do a few small events and one at a larger site where, at some future time, NJMA might be able to do a mini-Fungus Fest for those members who reside in southern Jersey.

Here's a quick round up of summer/fall events:

In **Mercer County**:
Virginia Tomat and Richard Kelly were at the Anne Demarais Nature Center - Family Night in the summer, as well as at the Lawrenceville Township Community Day in October.

In **Ocean County**:
Jason Hafstad gave a "Fungi of New Jersey" talk at Leisure Village West.

In **Middlesex County**:
Virginia, Richard and Sue McClary were at the Monroe Township Green Fair.

In **Burlington County**:
NJMA was given a generous allotment of space in the large barn at the Pinelands Nature Fest which was held on September 22nd. It was a celebration of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance's (PPA) (***https://pinelandsalliance.org/***) 35th anniversary. A small number of the attendees were allowed to preregister and join us at our Smith Woods foray to help search for the few fungi that could be found in the southern NJ dryness. Nina Burghardt did a talk on Pinelands fungi in the afternoon to a full house. Other volunteers supporting this event included Jason Hafstad, Lyla Meader, Sue McClary, Dorothy Smullen, and Emily Rawlins.

Dorothy Smullen at the Pinelands Nature Fest

BYTES, BITS, & BITES

TASTY LITTLE TIDBITS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Have you read something interesting concerning mushrooms or foraging? Send it to ***njmaeditor@njmyco.org*** *and share with the rest of our members!*

from Judy Glattstein:

A sustainable project aims to repurpose encroacher bush to create building blocks to solve Namibia's housing crisis:

https://tinyurl.com/27mv3pha

from Sue McClary:

Climate change is moving tree populations away from the soil fungi that sustain them:

https://tinyurl.com/3ueavvt6

from Sue McClary:

Retreating glaciers: Fungi enhance carbon storage in young Arctic soils:

https://tinyurl.com/26wrv698

from Sue McClary:

Multidrug-resistant fungi found in commercial soil, compost, flower bulbs:

https://tinyurl.com/4pdc8w5t

from Sue McClary:

Fighting Fire with Fungi:

https://tinyurl.com/mvxeavct

from Sue McClary:

NJDEP Fish & Wildlife Seeks Public Comment on the List of Rare Plant and Fungi Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN):

https://tinyurl.com/36f5mfe3

from Sue McClary:

Desert-loving fungi and lichens pose deadly threat to 5,000-year-old rock art:

https://tinyurl.com/2a7fzdvs

(more on next page)

Join us this and every Tuesday!

TAXONOMY TUESDAYS

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!

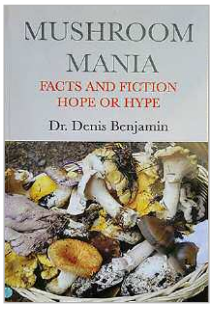
WELCOME TO THE ONLINE EDITION OF NJMA NEWS

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.

BOOK REVIEW

MUSHROOM MANIA
FACTS AND FICTION, HOPE OR HYPE

a review by Svetlana McCoy-Rusanova, Ph.D.



Mushroom Mania:
Facts and Fiction, Hope or Hype
by Dr. Denis Benjamin

Independently published (May 26, 2024)
258 pages

ASIN: B0D5DFS5N4
ISBN-13: 979-8322816485

What makes this book (and, presumably, any book!) interesting is personal stories. Dr. Benjamin has plenty of them to tell with his extensive experience as an amateur mycologist and a professional toxicologist of several decades.

The most captivating, for me, were his recounts of morel hunting with a friend and his advice on foraging by car. However, in my opinion, these stories could benefit from editing to make them more climatic and engaging. For example, the author tells a story of being poisoned by meadow mushrooms that he foraged in a cemetery which had been sprayed with pesticides. The moral is clear: Don't forage in cemeteries or other public places where toxins could have been applied! – but it would have been even more persuasive if more details were provided. Many of my questions didn't get answered: Did he have to go to the hospital? What were the symptoms and how long did they last? What medications or other cures did he use? The story was told without its most important part – the ending – and missed its potentially teachable moment.

This brand-new 2024 book follows Dr. Benjamin's 1996 book *Mushrooms: Poisons and Panaceas* and contains four chapters: Foraging, Mushrooms As Food, Poisons and Toxins, and Mushrooms As Medicine. While his first book is well-known in the field of mycology, this latest book reads, rather, as a collection of semi-connected essays or articles in a club newsletter, barely with any links or transitions between the topics covered. Not only are the chapters independent from each other, with their own references and bibliographies, but even the subsections are not well-connected: Some have their own bibliography as well, which makes it hard to navigate, especially with no index at the end of the book. Indeed, some of them are reprints from the author's prior publications or big chunks (sometimes over half a page) from his first book.

Honestly, it was hard for me to follow the medical jargon. If the book is dedicated to "All those curious about mushrooms," more needs to be done to make it accessible to a lay person or a mycologist without medical training. Dr. Benjamin's 1996 book does a better job handling topics on toxins and medical mushrooms.

The bizarre structure of the book (with no conclusion, no bridges between chapters, and no index) has been really confusing for me. Sometimes I like to skip ahead and read the conclusion mid-way through the book to see where it is heading. In this case, I could not find any conclusion and read the last couple of pages before the Acknowledgements section (makes sense, right?). The medical study discussed on those pages did ***not*** make any sense at all to me – It was like comparing oysters to chocolate covered ants to pornography, etc. I had to read through the whole chapter on Mushrooms As Medicine to find out that the bizarre study at the end of the book was actually a mock study, *i.e.*, the author's attempt to ridicule a multitude of pseudo-scientific studies on mycology. I guess that's one possible way of tackling it. I would still have preferred to see a summary to the chapter and a conclusion to the book.

Overall, this pre-publication copy of the book appeared to me more like a rough draft. It could definitely benefit from extensive editing: There are numerous stylistic and linguistic errors that should have been auto-corrected by a text editor (missing verbs, pronoun reference, gerunds, punctuation, etc.) Perhaps, these errors (along with other annoying mishaps, such as change in font size for several lines of text) will be corrected prior to the publication.

Another avenue for improvement would be to include more illustrations: there are only a few black-and-white drawings (presumably by the author, who has recently become a watercolorist).

Dr. Benjamin mentions the difficulties that he faced with his first book being cataloged and predicts that this new book would be treated in a similar manner. His advice to librarians was to buy several copies and file them in separate sections (foraging, toxicology, medicine, etc.). In my own library, I would put *Mushroom Mania* next to Eugenia Bone's 2013 book *Mycophilia: Revelations from the Weird World of Mushrooms*, which is also full of fascinating mushroom-related topics and stories (which I already read twice). Time will tell whether I will go back to Denis Benjamin's latest book. Perhaps, I'd rather wait for its second (revised) edition.

BYTES, BITS, & BITES *(continued from **page 3**)*

from Sue McClary:

Say 'funga' more; United Nations calls for fungi recognition

https://tinyurl.com/4d7tke9d

from Jim Barg:

NASA will use mushrooms to 'grow homes' on Mars and the Moon:

https://tinyurl.com/nhcwtwjc

from Sue McClary:

Video: What Fungi Means for Humanity:

https://tinyurl.com/29ht2kff *(more on page 11)*

THOMPSON PARK AND HELMETTA FORAY – AUGUST 3, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Our foray at Thompson Park and the Helmetta Pond Area was great fun. Most of us walked the paths at Thompson, and a small group drove to the Helmetta Pond area about four miles away. At noon, we convened at Picnic Area 2 at Thompson Park to sort and identify our finds. It was another hot day. I didn't make many collections, and some of my finds were past their prime. But I enjoyed walking in the beautiful mature forest at Thompson. Fortunately, others had better luck collecting, and there was a lot of nice material on the tables.

A PDF file, located at ***https://tinyurl.com/3ttvt92z*** contains a table list of our identified collections. This week, the table shows whether each taxon was collected at Thompson, at Helmetta, or at both locations. We identified 106 taxa to species, including lichens.

Gymnopus iocephalus *at Thompson Park*

The Thompson-Helmetta foray is interesting because of the very different habitats in the two locations. Thompson Park is a fine example of the mature, primarily mixed deciduous forest typical of northern New Jersey. Helmetta is a small pocket of New Jersey pine barrens habitat – sandy soils with extensive tracts of pitch pine and pine oak forest. This small pocket is interesting because it lies about 30 miles north of the boundary of what is considered the New Jersey Pine Barrens. These two geologically distinct areas share many fungi, although many species of fungi prefer one area over the other. I was not surprised that nearly 90 percent of our collections were found only at Thompson or only at Helmetta, and just over ten percent were found at both locations.

A NOTE ABOUT THE PDF SPECIES LISTS

The lists are arranged alphabetically within "form groups", which are defined by similarities in the structure of the spore bearing surface of the fungi. While this provides a straightforward way to group similar fungi, membership in the same form group does not reflect genetic relationships among the fungi. (See Timothy J. Baroni's *Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada*, Timber Field Press, 2017). The tables also show the frequency with which each taxon has been collected over the 43 years NJMA has kept records of its finds. I find this useful for recognizing common and uncommon species.

Also interesting is that we recorded *Amanita helmettensis* at Thompson Park, but not in Helmetta. This species was first recorded by NJMA in the mid-1980s. It was named by NJMA member Dr. Rodham Tulloss and associates. This taxon is very similar in appearance and genetics to *Amanita bisporigera*, which we also collected at Helmetta. We find *Amanita bisporigera* all over New Jersey, and I believe *Amanita helmettensis* has also been collected in habitats that are not "pine barren like". Thanks to Igor for identifying both collections.

Several entries in the table have a "MO" number next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each MO observation includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Thompson Park" or "Helmetta Pond Area". Observations from our foray on August 3, 2024 will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Photos from past NJMA forays of taxa that we collected this year might also be of interest.

Thanks to everyone for your collections, and especially for the completed foray tags. Thanks to Sue McClary and Igor, who posted photos of some of our foray collections on *Mushroom Observer*. Thanks to Jason Hafstad and Elizabeth DeCicco for collecting and identifying our lichens at most of our forays.

Tylopilus griseocarneus *at Helmetta*

HACKLEBARNEY STATE PARK – AUGUST 11, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

This was our first foray at Hacklebarney State Park during midi-summer. We held forays there in early May for three years in the early 1980s. Based on what we found on August 11th, I look forward to returning in the future.

A PDF file, located at ***https://tinyurl.com/yx8evyya*** contains a list of our identified collections. We identified 136 taxa to species, including lichens. We found members of each "form group", and we recorded several species of fungi, one myxomycete, and four species of lichen for the first time.

Several entries in the table have a "MO" number next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each MO observation includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Hacklebarney". Observations from our foray on August 11, 2024 will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue for posting most of these. Following are links to photos posted to *iNaturalist* by Jason Hafstad:

Ochrolechia yasudae
https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/235643576

Scytinium lichenoides
https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/235643316

Rosellinia subiculata
https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/235624474

Send in your articles and photos!

SUBMISSION DEADLINES for *NJMA NEWS*

NJMA News is a quarterly publication timed roughly to correspond with the middle of each season. Send submissions to njmaeditor@njmyco.org. The new issue dates and deadlines for the coming year are as follow:

WINTER (February) issue: Deadline is 1/15/2025
SPRING (May) issue: Deadline is 4/15/2025
SUMMER (August) issue: Deadline is 7/15/2025
FALL (November) issue: Deadline is 10/15/2025

Boletus nobilis *at Hacklebarney*

GREEN TURTLE POND FORAY – AUGUST 17, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

This was the fifth year NJMA has held a mid-summer foray at Green Turtle Pond. As we drove past the reservoirs along the road from Route 287, I was surprised that the upper reservoirs looked quite low. In the past, this has been a harbinger of dry conditions and few fruiting fungi. But on Sunday, the woods were moist and cool. To my surprise, my basket filled up quickly. Everyone returned with many collections, and the tables filled quickly with interesting fungi in good condition.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/497j2s5w*** contains a list of our identified collections. A note at the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 119 taxa to species, section or genus, including lichens.

Several entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections

*(continues on the **next page**)*

for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each MO observation includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Green Turtle Lake". Observations from our foray on August 17th will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue and Igor for posting these MO observations of our finds.

The "Parade of the Boletes" this year was eye-popping. I can't remember a foray in which we identified as many boletes as we identified gilled fungi. But we had 38 taxa from each "form group" at Green Turtle Pond. Fortunately, Igor was able to be with us, so we got names for most of these boletes.

WAWAYANDA STATE PARK FORAY – AUGUST 25, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

I always enjoy Wawayanda, whatever the conditions. It reminds me of the woods near a lake in western Massachusetts where I spent my summers as a child.

I basically climbed and walked in a circle behind the abandoned furnace. The woods were drier, and I found fewer fungi than I expected. But we had lots of "eyes on the ground," and ended up with a good mix of late summer fungi to sort through, examine, and identify.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/bd9fn37s*** contains a list of our identified collections. A note at the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 95 taxa to species, section or genus.

Several entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Wawayanda State Park". Observations from our foray on August 17th will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue McClary and Kevin Cao for posting these MO observations of our finds.

Thanks to everyone for your collections. We especially appreciate your help in documenting and identifying your finds by completing foray tags.

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Kevin Cao with ***Omphalotus illudens*** *at Wawayanda*

STOKES STATE FOREST/KITTLE FIELD GRETA TURCHICK FORAY AND PICNIC SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

I always enjoy both of our forays at Stokes State Forest. Our late summer Greta Turchick foray at Kittle Field is always one of my favorites. Late summer/early fall mushrooms are always plentiful. The picnic and remembrance of Greta Turchick bring out many members. The day is always great fun.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/2uy45jar*** contains a list of our identified collections. A note on the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 123 taxa to species, section or genus. As I said above, we found many late summer and early fall fungi. See the species names highlighted in brownish red.

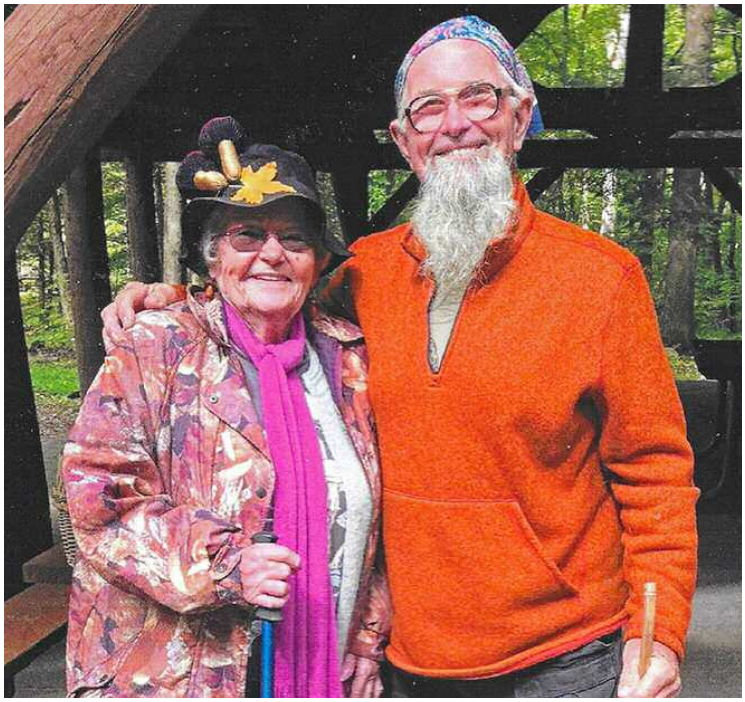
Several entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location

"Stokes State Forest". Observations from our foray on September 8th will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue McClary and Kevin Cao for posting these MO observations of our finds.

The taxa designated as likely fruiting in August through October were identified as follows: I reasoned that fungi we found this year for the first time at Stokes Kittle Field were good candidates because none of these had been found on any of our previous nine forays in 2024. I then checked the dates of collection of these species that were posted on *Mushroom Observer* from northeastern North America to determine whether each was mostly collected in August to October.

Turbinellus floccosus *at Kittle Field, Stokes State Forest*

Ursula Pohl and Artie Grimes at the Stokes foray



SWARTSWOOD STATE PARK FORAY– SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

This was our first foray at Swartswood State Park.

Conditions there were very dry, in contrast to the moist conditions we enjoyed the previous week at Stokes Kittle Field. Still, we had a good turnout.

The PDF file at ***https://tinyurl.com/mry4av42*** contains a list of our identified collections. The note on the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table.

We identified 72 taxa, including two species collected and identified for the first time: *Entoloma jubatum*, a gilled mushroom, and *Vanderbylia fraxinea*, a polypore.

Entoloma jubatum *at Swartswood State Park*

Nina identified the *Entoloma*, which appears to have been collected only a few times in eastern North America, based on the postings to *Mushroom Observer* (MO).

*(continues on **next page**)*

Vanderbylia fraxinea *at Swartswood State Park*

Sue McClary posted her photos of our *Vanderbylia* to MO as "*Fomes* sp." An expert who is active on MO identified Sue's "*Fomes* sp." as *Vanderbylia fraxinea* from her very good photo. Sue questioned this diagnosis because our specimen was collected on maple, whereas most mushroom guides state that *V. fraxinea* occurs on ash. The MO expert responded that *V. fraxinea* has been documented on many deciduous trees in addition to ash and provided a link to an article supporting this statement. You can find this article at MO #560072. Kudos to Svetlana for making the collection and documenting the host tree, to Sue for posting a good photo to MO, and to participants at MO for their help in assigning a name. Nina dried both collections and they will be placed in the NJMA herbarium at Rutgers.

Several entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to www.mushroomobserver.org. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Swartswood State Park". Observations from our foray will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue McClary, Kevin Cao and Nina for posting these MO observations of our finds.

Thanks to everyone for your many good collections, help with sorting, and working to name our finds. We appreciate your help in documenting your collections by completing foray tags. Comparing the characteristics of your specimen to the descriptions in the field guides can seem overwhelming at first. We especially appreciate your efforts to take on this task.

SMITHVILLE PARK FORAY – SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

We continued our streak of dry foray sites with our foray at usually productive Smithville Park on September 22, 2024.

We welcomed guests from the Pinelands Preservation Alliance's Pinelands Nature Fest. Unfortunately, the fungi didn't cooperate. Very few were fruiting, and even many that did fruit had suffered from the lack of recent rain. But the walk was fun, and everyone brought back a few collections. In the end, we had plenty of material to examine and try to identify, and several people found interesting fungi in very good condition.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/mwnubwya*** contains a list of our identified collections. A note at the the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 62 taxa. This is the first foray in a long time where we identified more polypores than gilled mushrooms. I also don't remember a foray in mid-September where we did not identify a single bolete.

A few entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections

Part of the Smithville foray collection from Jason Hafstad

for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Smithville Park". Observations from our foray will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue McClary, Kevin Cao and Emily Rawlins for posting these MO observations of our finds.

Emily's MO observation of "*Laccaria* sp." (MO #561060) especially interested me and I want to highlight it. I don't believe I saw the collection, but I am pretty sure it is a *Laccaria striatula*. From Emily's very good photos, I could see the cap had grooves radiating from the center to the edge, a very light orange-brown color with a slightly darker center, the gills were pinkish flesh colored, widely spaced. The stem was the same color as the cap and the mushroom was growing in moss that is not sphagnum moss. This collection of characteristics fits *Laccaria striatula*.

SCOTLAND RUN PARK FORAY – SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

We continued our run of dry foray sites at Scotland Run Park on September 29th. But I enjoyed the walk and the company, and a nice assortment of fall fungi gave us plenty to look at and try to identify.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/3s5hnkt8*** contains a list of our identified collections. A note on the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 66 taxa, including three lichens.

A few entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Scotland Run". Observations from our foray will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Emily Rawlins and Sue McClary for posting these MO observations of our finds.

Thanks to everyone for your many good collections, help with sorting, and efforts to identify them.

Pilobolus crystallinus *on dung at Scotland Run*

BELLEPLAIN STATE FOREST FORAY – OCTOBER 6, 2024

by John Burghardt, NJMA Foray Recorder

Again, our run of dry foray locations continued at Belleplain, but some of the white cedar stands were still moist, and these produced some unusual collections.

The PDF file located at ***https://tinyurl.com/mwjdeedk*** contains a list of our identified collections. The note on the top of ***page 5*** explains the layout of the table. We identified 54 taxa.

Two species were collected for the first time by NJMA. *Coprinopsis radiata* is a very small, gilled mushroom that fruits on animal dung. Nina needed her hand lens to even see it in the field and used her stereoscope to examine it more closely at home. *Entoloma lagenicystis* has a small brown cap with white gills and white stipe and often grows in moss. Nina used microscopic characteristics to identify it.

Jason Hafstad identified 35 lichens plus an additional five non-lichenized fungi. The non-lichenized fungi are all Ascomycetes, so the table has two additional sections. Jason said in his note that "the most significant find was the *Leptogium corticola*, which appears to be a rare old growth indicator species and which was last collected in New Jersey in 1938". Jason posted photos to iNaturalist (***https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/246022977***). The web address did not get me to Jason's iNaturalist observation. I was eventually able to get to his posting by requesting all observations of this species. Hopefully, most of you are more facile with iNaturalist than I am.

Several entries in the table have one or more "MO" numbers next to the taxon name. These are collections for which an observation was posted to ***www.mushroomobserver.org***. Each "MO observation" includes one or more photographs. To view the collections, use the website search function to find all "observations" for the location "Belleplain". Observations from our foray will be near the beginning of the observations retrieved. Thanks to Sue McClary, Emily Rawlins and Nina for posting these MO observations of our finds.

Bogbodia uda *at Belleplain*

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 20 **10:00 AM**	**FORAY: WELLS MILLS COUNTY PARK** **Waretown, NJ** *(Ocean County)*
Sunday, October 27 **10:00 AM**	**FORAY: BASS RIVER STATE FOREST** **Bass River Township, NJ** *(Burlington County)*
Thursday - Sunday, **October 31 - November 3**	**PACIFIC NORTHWEST NAMA CAMP** **Randle, WA** For details, visit ***https://namyco.org/annual-foray***
Sunday, November 3 **10:00 AM**	**FORAY: ESTELL MANOR PARK, NORTH GATE** **Mays Landing, NJ** *(Atlantic County)*
Sunday, November 10 **11:59 PM**	**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES - NJMA PHOTO CONTEST**
Sunday, December 8 **1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**	**NJMA HOLIDAY POTLUCK AND PHOTO CONTEST SHOW** **Unitarian Society, East Brunswick, NJ** *(Middlesex County)* ***NJMA members only.*** *Pre-registration required - $10 per person to offset the costs of the event.* ***Register by December 2*** *(see below for full details.)* *Please bring a favorite food preparation for the buffet along with your ingredient list and serving utensils.*

ATTEND THE NJMA 2024 HOLIDAY POTLUCK AND PHOTO CONTEST

by Lyla Meader

NJMA requests the pleasure of your company at our annual Holiday Potluck and showing of the Photo Contest entries and winners. This will occur at the Unitarian Society in East Brunswick on Sunday, December 8th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Alongside this potluck meal there will be a viewing of the 2024 NJMA Photo Contest entries and announcement of the top three winners in each category. To help celebrate the return of the contest, attendees will vote to select the overall People's Choice winner.

First, you must preregister on the ***NJMA website***, then send an email to ***HolidayEvent@njmyco.org*** indicating what dish you are bringing to the potluck and whether it will be an appetizer, side dish, main dish, or dessert. Setup and dish reheating will begin at 1:00 pm. *If you can volunteer to help with setup or cleanup, let us know that in the email.*

How the 2024 Holiday Potluck will work:

Attendees should bring a favorite dish for the buffet table. The dish should be sufficient for 4 - 6 people if a main dish, and 6 - 8 people if an appetizer, side dish, or dessert.

If you plan to bring a dish containing wild mushrooms, you must get prior clearance for the dish by contacting us by December 1st.

Dishes must be labeled with an ingredient list, and should arrive ready for the buffet table with serving utensils. The kitchen is available for reheating starting at 1:00 pm.

Admission: $10. per person (plus a buffet contribution) to offset the costs of the event. Beverages will be provided. *You must be a current member of NJMA to attend this event (for insurance reasons).*

In order that we may cater the party properly, please ***register*** by December 2! No reservations can be accepted after that date. The last day to cancel your registration is also December 2. ***Register early*** *because space is limited to approximately 40 people.*

BYTES, BITS, & BITES

*(continued from **page 4**)*

from Jim Richards:

The Fantastic Fungi Mushroom Zodiac Chart:

https://tinyurl.com/3k7uab4a

from Mike Inskeep:

With 145 sickened, 2 dead, microdosing candy poisonings are still a mystery:

https://tinyurl.com/bdfhyw2w

from Jim Barg:

State officials confirm first sighting of invasive, disease-carrying tick species — here's what to look for:

https://tinyurl.com/3fk35afw

from Gary Makus:

Video: Do not consume the Lilac Brown Bolete (*Sutorius eximius*):

https://youtu.be/1FhsUye0HM0

WHO'S IN A NAME?
Gibellula arachnophila

by John Dawson (ninety-sixth in a series)

In 2011, the International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants was amended to establish the "one fungus, one name" principle, according to which the teleomorph (sexual) and anamorph (asexual) forms of a single species would no longer bear different scientific names. As a consequence of that some fungal eponyms were replaced by others. In particular, the anamorph of *Torrubiella arachnophila* (whose generic name honored José Torrubia, profiled in installment 74 of this series) was formerly called *Gibellula leiopus*. After the code was amended, both forms were renamed *Gibellula arachnophila*, in commemoration of the Italian botanist and mycologist Giuseppe Gibelli. Gibelli is further eponymized in the names of the fungal genera *Gibellini, Gibellia* and *Gibbelulopsis*.

Gibelli was born on 9 February 1831 in the town of Santa Cristina e Bissone. Sources I have seen do not say where he received his primary and secondary education, but he subsequently enrolled in the nearby University of Pavia, from which he received a doctorate in medicine in 1854. The following year, he married Costanza Mantegazza, who bore him two children, Raffaello and Camillo.

For a short time, Gibelli practiced medicine in the town of Inverigo, but after pursuing studies in botany and microscopy in Germany he thereafter devoted himself to botanical research (then conducted within departments of medicine). In 1861, he was hired as an assistant at the botanical garden in Inverigo, where he worked for a decade before being appointed as an assistant at the newly-founded laboratory of cryptogamic botany in Pavia. In 1874, he became director of the agricultural station in Modena and, from then until 1879, he served as extraordinary professor of botany at the university there. From 1879 –1883 he held the chair of botany at the University of Bologna, after which he moved to Turin, where he remained until his death on 16 September 1898. There, in addition to being professor of botany, he also directed the museum and botanical garden.

During his years in Pavia, Gibelli focused his attention on lichens. His first work, *On the reproductive organs of the genus Verrucaria*, was published in 1865 in the *Memoirs of the Italian Society of Natural Sciences*. Later he turned to work in taxonomy and plant pathology. In the former field, he co-authored the two-volume *Compendio della flora italiana* (Compendium of Italian Flora) with Vincenzo de Cesati and Giovanni Passerini; in the latter he studied the so-called "ink disease" of chestnuts and other trees. He, himself, did not identify its causal organism (now classified as several species of *Phytophthora*, the oomycete genus to which the agent that causes late blight of potatoes also belongs), but in comparing the roots of diseased and healthy trees, he was the first to observe fungal hyphae surrounding their root hairs (the association now called ectomycorrhizal), a discovery he reported in his 1882 paper *Nuovi studi sulla malattia del Castagno detta dell'inchiostro: memoria* (New studies of the chestnut disease, called ink disease), published in the *Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Sciences of the Institute of Bologna*.

In addition to authoring 46 scientific papers, Gibelli "substantially renewed the botanical garden of Turin [by creating] new laboratories and buildings and … [by enriching] the herbarium [through] the acquisition of various collections", including the donation of his personal collection of some 20,000 specimens representing 6000 species.[1]

Gibelli was vice-president of the Italian Botanical Society from 1891 to 1893 and was a member of both the Accademia dei Lincei and the Academy of Sciences of Turin.

[1] Quoted from Google's English translation of the entry on Gibelli in volume 54 of the Italian reference work *Dizionario Biografico degli Italiano*, from which almost all the information in this profile was taken. The portrait of Gibelli reproduced here is by Alessandro Duroni, part of the portrait collection of botanists in the library of the University of Padua (available online from the Internet Archive).