



THE KEYSTONE CAP

Newsletter of the Eastern Penn Mushroomers
www.epennmushroomers.org

Fall 2018

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President's Message - by Shawn Moyer

Wet may be the best word to describe this summer.

I am looking forward to cooler and drier weather.... I hope fall can deliver. Only 4 brave souls made it to our last foray at Gold Mine road. However, they were rewarded for taking on the wet weather with 60 species of mushrooms.

We were contacted by Eric Finkenbinder, Chief Meteorologist of ABC27 News. He thought the wet weather would make for good mushrooming, and he was right. Reporter Alex Peterson met with Linda Sears and John Dawson at Pinchot Park on September 12 and conducted an interview. Linda and John did a wonderful job representing our club.

<https://www.abc27.com/news/local/-mushroom-hunters-prefer-the-wet-rainy-weather/1438550887>

I look forward to see the exposure our club gets from this interview. Now we have our own Celebrity Mycophiles! Thank you again Linda and John.

I would like to thank all of our club members who participated in the Miknis Foray this year. The weather held out and there were 188 species identified! All of this rain has paid off.

Bring on the fall forays.



Mushroom cloud made of mushrooms, from art exhibit, "The Fallout of the Food System." See more here: <https://petapixel.com/2018/06/25/photos-of-mushroom-clouds-made-of-mushrooms/>

SAVE THE DATES

Mark your calendars now so as not to miss these EPM activities.

EPM Forays (details p. 5)

Sunday, September 23
Sunday, October 7
Sunday, October 21
Sunday, November 4
Sunday, November 18
Sunday, December 2

FUNGI IN THE NEWS

Portable Waterless Toilet

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/549783/waterless-toilet-made-mushrooms-could-be-key-refugee-needs>

Uses mycelium to compost human waste.

Using Fungi to Age Steak

<https://www.popsci.com/cook-steak-koji-fungus>

Chris Snyder has tried this and it works.

Mushroom Study to Control Blood Sugar

<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/322816.php>

How mushrooms increase gut prebiotics and control blood glucose.

Ghost Mushroom Lane

<https://www.forestrysa.com.au/ghostmushrooms/>

Australia's glowing pine forest of bioluminescent ghost mushrooms.

Mushroom Laundry Detergent

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/06/embar-k-breakthroughs-mushroom-laundry-detergent/>

The stain-fighting power of fungi enzymes.

2018 NEMF Trustee's Report – by John Dawson

Gary Emberger, our club's Northeast Mycological Federation trustee, has recently retired and will be moving to New Hampshire at the end of this year. At his request I represented EPM at this year's trustees' meeting (Cheryl Dawson and Linda Sears also attended the meeting), and at our business meeting next January it will be necessary to appoint a new trustee to replace him.

The meeting was held on Saturday afternoon, July 29, at MacVittie College Union on the campus of SUNY Geneseo, headquarters for this year's NEMF foray. It was called to order by outgoing NEMF president Diana Smith. Following approval of the minutes of the 2017 meeting, treasurer Paul Sadowski presented his financial report, which was sobering: on December 31, 2016 NEMF had \$34,339.96 in its bank account, but one year later only \$16,892.93. Of that difference, \$6447.03 represented the loss incurred during the 2016 foray, which was held at a Vermont resort rather than a college campus and entailed unanticipated breakfast expenses.

The next major agenda item was approval of the schedule of clubs sponsoring the seven-year schedule of forays. In particular, **the 2019 NEMF foray will be jointly sponsored by our club, the New Jersey Mycological Association and the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club**, with possible additional sponsorship by the Central Pennsylvania Mushroom Club. That foray will be held August 1 – 4, 2019 at Lock Haven State University in Lock Haven, PA. Frank Marra of NJMA will serve as overall foray chair, with John and Cheryl Dawson as registrars. A contract with LHSU has already been signed and John, Cheryl, Linda, Dave Wasilewski and John and Nina Burghardt have scouted a number of potential walk sites. Others who have been involved in the planning to date include NJMA president Luke Smithson, John Plischke (EPM and WPMC), Dorothy Smullen (NJMA and EPM) and Dr. Barrie Overton of LHSU, who will serve as head mycologist at the foray.

Rick van der Pohl of Monadnock Mushrooms Unlimited was elected to serve as NEMF president for the next two years, and Paul Sadowski agreed to continue as NEMF treasurer. **One important post, that of NEMF web site master, remains to be filled.** An announcement soliciting applications for that post, including a list of the responsibilities and recompense involved, will be distributed soon to all member clubs.

“Mushrooms were the roses in the garden of that unseen world, because the real mushroom plant was underground. The parts you could see – what most people called a mushroom – was just a brief apparition. A cloud flower.”

–Margaret Atwood, *The Year of the Flood*

2018 EPM ANNUAL HELEN MIKNIS FORAY REPORT

By Linda Brynan Sears

Another successful annual Miknis Foray was held the first weekend in August at the Penn State Mont Alto campus. Thank you to all who attended and to John and Cheryl Dawson for their tireless efforts in planning and running the event. Our professional identifiers, Dorothy Smullen and Paula DeSantos, again performed a tremendous job identifying the mountains of fungi which we collected. The final tally for the foray was 185 identified species. Twenty-eight were new finds for the club.

The weather was amazingly nice. Only the early bird forays on Friday afternoon were subjected to a rain shower. I don't think I'm overstating this when I say this has been the "summer of rain". Therefore, the fact that we had two full rainless days was indeed welcome. Thank you to the weather gods.

I hope all of you who attended had a chance to meet John Plischke, mycologist and member of the Western Pennsylvania Mycological Association. He came on Saturday to be with us. I thank him for sitting with me as I performed my first solo DNA sampling tasks. He had posted pictures of several of our *Amanita* collections to Rod Tulloss' *Amanita* of North America Facebook page. Mr. Tulloss is North America's preeminent *Amanita* expert. Based on those pictures, Mr. Tulloss suggested we sample two of the finds as they may be previously unknown species. He also identified an *Amanita* species which Penny Soppas collected right out in back of our dorm area as *Amanita rooseveltensis*. This species was named for Mr. Tulloss' home town of Roosevelt, NJ.



You would think that attendees would have had their fill of foraying by Saturday evening but, alas, no. Several of us began searching the grounds outside of the dining hall and came up with yet a few more species. It seems we just can't stop ourselves.



I was glad to see we had several new members in attendance. What a great way to become saturated in the subject and to learn. Our identifiers gave a very informative talk on Sunday morning regarding many of our collections and Cheryl Dawson showed us how some of the fungi found can be used to dye wool.

Following is the list of this year's Find Contest winners:

- Penny Soppas – *Amanita rooseveltensis*
- Karen Scipioni – *Collybia cirrhata*
- Christina Smith - *Trichoglossum hirsutum*
- Linda Brynan Sears – *Mycorrhaphium adustum*
- Marianne Kulp – *Pseudoboletus parasiticus*
- Gary Emberger – *Entoloma parvum*
- Eva Abraham – *Chlorociboria aeruginascens*
- John Dawson - *Marasmius sullivantii*

We especially want to thank the Penn State Mont Alto campus staff who did a superb job once again. We are always greeted warmly and accommodations and food, as usual, were outstanding.

The 2019 Miknis Foray will not take place as our club is cohosting the NEMF Annual Samuel Ristich Foray in Lock Haven. I hope you will consider assisting in this collaborative effort and hope to see you at Miknis 2020.

NEMF ANNUAL SAMUEL RISTICH FORAY REPORT

By Linda Brynan Sears

I attended my very first Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) Annual Samuel Ristich Foray this year. What an event! I enjoyed every second. It was held in Geneseo, NY this year at the SUNY Geneseo campus. Most of the forays were conducted in the beautiful Letchworth State Park where the gorge and waterfall views are outstanding, especially with all the rainfall we've had this year.



Attending the event was a great opportunity to see species I had previously never encountered. To learn directly from experts such as Renee Lebeuf, Tim Baroni, Roy Halling, Rod Tulloss, and so many others was priceless. I can't thank them enough for their willingness to share.

Lectures and presentations on every imaginable subject regarding fungi were conducted. I attended two: "Mushroom Names/Mushroom Meanings: Through Field and Forest with a Dictionary" – Richard Aaron and "Bugs, Slugs and Other Mushroom Thugs" – Bill Yule. The first was extremely useful for me as Richard gave many of the definitions of the Latin words used in naming fungi. I now have a more visual concept to connect to many of the names. Richard is also a humorous logophile (person who loves words) so that it was not at all a dry discourse. Bill Yule's presentation was just downright fun and informative as well. By the way, the Mushroom Thugs were his wife and a couple of friends.

The second evening was dedicated to a moving tribute for Gary Lincoff, author of the *National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms*. His passing this past March has been keenly felt throughout the fungi community.

On the last night of the foray, lead mycologist, Kathie T. Hodge from Cornell University, gave a presentation called "Food Fight: The Fungi in Our Foods". What a great speaker she is. What I mostly learned from her is to never scrape off the mold from the top of your yogurt and eat the rest. We all know about that hidden mycelium stuff. Think about it. Her mushroom blog is <http://blog.mycology.cornell.edu>.

The species list from the foray has not yet been published, but I do believe there were over 500 species collected and between 50 – 60 new species which had never before been collected at a NEMF foray. All in all, it was a successful learning experience. I definitely recommend it.

As a reminder, we are co-hosting the 2019 NEMF Foray in Lock Haven, PA and we are still looking for EPM club members to volunteer for different positions.

EPM – 2018 FALL FORAY SCHEDULE – OPEN TO MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

2018 Fall Foray Schedule: in order to maintain safety for our members all 2018 fall forays have been scheduled on Sundays due to hunting. **It is still recommended to wear orange.**

Sunday, September 23, 2018 – 10 am – SGL 211 (Stoney Creek RR Trailhead)

Directions: From Harrisburg go West on Route 322. At Dauphin, turn right onto the first road after the underpass:

- Continue onto Allegheny St. (0.1 mi.)
- Turn right onto Schuylkill St. (289 ft.)
- Turn right onto Erie St. (0.1 mi.)
- Turn left onto Stoney Creek Rd. (8 mi.) to the Stoney Valley RR trail head parking lot. Stoney Creek Rd. becomes Ellendale Rd. for the last 0.8769 mile. (The road becomes a dirt road.)

Stoney Creek Rd., Ellendale Forge 17018

DD: 40.4021, -76.8381; **DMS:** N 40° 24' 7.56, W 76° 50' 17.16; **GPS:** N 40 24 7.56, W -76 50 17.16

Sunday, October 7, 2018 – 10 am – French Creek State Park (Scott's Run Lake)

Directions:

From Lancaster, PA - (Fastest Route): Take 222 N. to exit for I-76/PA-272/Denver/Pennsylvania turnpike. Follow signs for and proceed onto I-76/PA Turnpike. Go 12 miles to Exit 298 for I-176 toward PA-10/Morgantown/Reading.

- Continue onto I-176 N. Use right 2 lanes to take Exit 1A for PA-10 N toward Beckersville. Turn right onto PA-10 N/Morgantown Rd/Reading Rd. Proceed .5 miles.
- Turn right onto Joanna Rd. Continue straight through intersection with Twin Valley Rd. and then take first left onto Hopewell Rd. (becomes Park Rd). Proceed 4 miles (passing Park Office & Hopewell Lake on the right). Scott's Run Lake entrance is .5 miles on left. Take first left (towards boat launch) and proceed to parking area near the dam.

Leisurely drive through Amish country: take PA-23 E. to Morgantown. Turn left onto PA-10. Follow directions from above: Turn right onto Joanna Rd.

From North (Reading): Take I-176 S. Take Exit 1 for PA-10 Toward Beckersville/Morgantown. Turn left onto PA-10. Follow above directions from above: Turn right onto Joanna Rd.

From East (Philadelphia): Take I-76/PA Turnpike W. to Exit 298 for I-176 toward PA -10/Morgantown/Reading. Follow directions from above: Continue onto I-176 N.

Address: Scott's Run Rd., Elverson, PA 19520

DD: 40.210, -75.797 **DMS:** N 40 12 36, W -75 47 49 **GPS:** N 40 12.600, W -75 47.820

Park Website: <http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/FrenchCreekStatePark/Pages/default.aspx>

Sunday, October 21, 2018 – 10 am – SGL 170 Marysville

Directions: From Harrisburg, take Route I-81 north, cross the river on I-81 and then exit onto Route 11 & 15 North. Turn left onto Rt. 850, proceed roughly 5 miles. Go left on Idle Road to the game lands parking lot (on right) at the top of the hill.

255-207 Idle Rd., Marysville, PA 17053

DD: 40.314250, -77.032861; **DMS:** N 40° 18' 51.3, W 77° 01' 58.3; **GPS:** N 40 18 51.3, W -77 1 58.3

Sunday, November 4, 2018 – 10 am – Susquehannock State Park

Directions: From North: Take Rt. 272 South from Lancaster to the light in Buck. Go right onto 372. Make a left onto Susquehannock Dr. and follow that to the park, where you will make a sharp right onto State Park Rd. Meet at the last parking area and pavilion. There are restrooms there.

From South: Head north on Rt. 222. Turn left onto Furniss Rd. Turn left onto Harmony Ridge Rd. Turn right onto Susquehannock Dr. Turn left onto State Park Rd. Meet at the last parking area and pavilion. There are restrooms there.

1880 Park Dr., Drumore, PA 17518

DD: 39.803736, -76.288112; **DMS:** N 39° 48' 13.45, W 76° 17' 17.203; **GPS:** N 39 48 13.45, W -76 17 17.203

Park Website: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/SusquehannockStatePark/Pages/default.aspx>

Sunday, November 18, 2018 – 10 am – Lancaster County Central Park

Directions: From Lancaster, take Prince Street (Rt. 272) south. Just out of the city, take a left onto Golf Rd. Follow this past the golf course and baseball diamonds until you see Kiwanis Rd. on the right. Take this, and just in front of the covered bridge, go right and down into the parking lot.

Kiwanis Drive, Lancaster, PA 17602

DD: 40.0158, -76.2824; **DMS:** N 40 00 57, W -76 16 56; **GPS:** N 40 00.953, W -76 16.946

Park Website: <https://co.lancaster.pa.us/244/Lancaster-County-Central-Park>

December 2, 2018 – 10 am – Gifford Pinchot State Park

Directions: The park is near the metropolitan areas of York and Harrisburg. We will meet at the Conewago Day Use Area. There are facilities here.

From Harrisburg: via the Lewisberry Exit (35) of I-83 south, then PA 177 south; or by US 15 south to Dillsburg, then to PA 74 south.

From York: take PA 74 north or I-83 north. From I-83, take the Newberrytown Exit (32), PA 382 west to PA 177 south.

From Lancaster: take Rt. 30 West to Rt. 74 North. Take 74 N through Dover, until you come to Alpine Rd, and follow that to the Conewago Day Use Area on the left.

Gifford Pinchot State Park, Wellsville, PA 17365

DD: 40.069255, -76.882511; **DMS:** N 40° 4' 16.648, W 76° 53' 18.19; **GPS:** N 40 04.284, W -76 53.280

You may want to visit the following websites which feature this park:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/GiffordPinchot/index.htm>