



THE KEYSTONE CAP

Newsletter of the Eastern Penn Mushroomers
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Fall 2019

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COMMUNICATIONS

President:

Shawn Moyer
(717) 571-9942
smoyer@pinchoffamilymed.com

Vice Pres & Program Chair:

John Dawson
717-846-1225
Jwd7too@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Cheryl Dawson
717-846-1225
Daws1cheryl@comcast.net

Director at Large:

Devin Bily
804-615-3932
bilyds@gmail.com

Foray Chair & Recorder:

Linda Sears
570-581-1202
lkbsears@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Chris Snyder
717-768-4660
Cwsnyder@frontiernet.net

Newsletter Editor:

Lynn Nelson
717-757-4980
LynnNelson104@gmail.com

Culinary Coordinators:

Gina Vachino
410-302-6395
gvachino@gmail.com

***Seeking one more volunteer!

DID YOU KNOW? ... by Linda Sears

Did you know that there is a chanterelle that grows near the seashore?

Cantharellus coccolobae, is similar to the well-known species *Cantharellus cinnabarinus*, since it has small, pinkish orange fruiting bodies. However, *Cantharellus cinnabarinus* is a denizen of temperate hardwood forests, and it differs microscopically.

Mycorrhizal with sea grapes (plants in the genus *Coccoloba*); growing alone, scattered, or gregariously in sandy, coastal areas; August and September; known from the Caribbean, the Bahamas, and Florida.

Keep your eyes peeled during your next Florida vacation.
(Reference: MushroomExpert.com)



Image by Jason Bolin.
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More... DID YOU KNOW?

If you enjoyed this new segment of our newsletter, consider sharing your own ideas. If you know of a strange or interesting mushroom, submit a one or two paragraph description and a photograph for inclusion in future editions of the Keystone Cap newsletter.

Send submissions to Lynn Nelson (contact information in the newsletter masthead). Be sure to cite your sources and credit the photographer.

Culinary Coordinator Needed

EPM is still seeking one more volunteer to fill the remaining open role of Culinary Coordinator.

Culinary Coordinators are needed only four times a year—for our three winter meetings and during our annual summer get-together. The responsibilities are to set up for the refreshments and break it down afterwards. This includes bringing EPM's stock of supplies and equipment (coffee, tea, plates, cups, etc.) to the events, making the coffee, and

SAVE THE DATES

Mark your calendars so you don't miss these FUNgi activities.

EPM Fall 2019 Forays

(details on page 5)

Saturday, September 28

Sunday, October 6

Sunday, October 20

Sunday, November 3

Sunday, November 17

Sunday, December 1

FUNGI IN THE NEWS

***Tolypocladium* fungus neutralizes skunk odor**

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/fungus-makes-chemical-neutralizes-stench-skunk-spray>

Researchers find pericosine component eliminates stink.

1st annual Blended Burger Contest: Home Edition

<https://blenditarian.com/resources/recipe/pork-and-shiitake-larb-burgers/>

Winning recipe and links to other entries.

Lightning increases mushroom harvest

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/4/100409-lightning-mushrooms-japan-harvest/>

Studies test the effect of electricity on mushroom yields.

On Mushrooms and Mourning

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/long-litt-woon/the-way-through-the-woods-long/>

Book review of a memoir.

“A wonder-inducing dive into the unique kingdom of fungi.”

replenishing the supplies as needed. An additional responsibility for the summer party is the purchase of beer, wine, and ice. All expenses will be reimbursed by the club, with adequate receipts. No cooking skills required.

Two people fulfill this role. Gina Vachino is one of the culinary coordinators; we need one more person. If interested, please contact Cheryl Dawson or Gina Vachino. Their contact information is in the masthead of this newsletter.

The 2019 NAMA foray: My own experience – By John Dawson

The annual foray of the North American Mycological Association, of which EPM is a member, was held this year on the campus of Paul Smith's College in Paul Smith's, New York, an attractive site on a lake, where a NEMF foray was held a few years ago. Recalling that earlier foray, which we enjoyed very much, Cheryl and I looked forward to a relaxing weekend that would allow us to go into the woods to collect mushrooms and to attend some interesting lectures, opportunities we had not had at the NEMF foray at Lock Haven the weekend before due to the demands of our duties there as registrars.

Unfortunately, those hopes were largely unfulfilled, and we returned home more tired than ever. For reasons inscrutable to us (since the woods did not seem particularly dry), there were very few mushrooms to be found, and those that made it to the display tables were so desiccated as to be virtually unrecognizable. In four hours of foraying I collected less than a dozen species. I saw no ascomycetes at all, only one polypore, a single tiny specimen of *Tremella*, one slime mold (*Ceratiomyxa*), and just a few agarics. I didn't even see any *Trametes*, *Stereum*, or *Trichaptum*! Overall only about 300 species were recorded – 100 less than at NEMF!

With the help of Susan Hopkins, who lives in nearby Saranac Lake, Cheryl did collect some dye mushrooms; and we both enjoyed seeing and hearing loons on the lake and taking photos of blooming pitcher plants and wild orchids, which were growing in profusion in a bog on one of the trails. We also heard a wonderful lecture by Eleanor Shavit on mushrooms fossilized in amber – a talk I hope to have her present at one of our winter meetings next year.

The beds at Paul Smith's were somewhat better than those at Lock Haven, as was the food, but neither were as good as what we had had on our earlier visit there; and the din of conversation in the dining hall made it almost impossible to socialize at meals, especially for someone like myself who wears hearing aids.



Habenaria orchids (John Dawson)



Pitcher plants (John Dawson)

Most frustrating of all for us was a problem we have observed at all of the NAMA forays we have attended, and which has been exacerbated by the recent emphasis on vouchering of specimens: most of the specimens of any real interest that are collected are either whisked away to the dryers to be sent off for sequencing or are snapped up by some of the professional mycologists before they ever make it to the display tables. Thus, at NAMA forays (in contrast to NEMF) there is no point in collecting fungi you do not already recognize, because you will never learn what they are or what happened to them. We've always found the NEMF forays to be collegial events where professionals and amateurs mingle amicably, whereas at NAMA forays the professionals seem more interested in exploiting the amateurs' collecting efforts. Consequently, we have decided henceforth only to attend the NEMF forays.

Report to EPM on NEMF Trustee meeting – By Cheryl Dawson

The NEMF Board of Trustees met on Saturday afternoon, August 3 at 3:30 p. m. during the NEMF 2019 foray at Lock Haven University. Rick Van de Poll presided over the meeting as NEMF President. Since I was the only representative of EPM there, I will try to report on what took place. These are not formal minutes, however. The usual business of a roll call of attendance of trustees took place and it was determined that there was barely a quorum. The secretary still has Gary Emberger listed as the Trustee for EPM, a listing I've been trying to correct all summer, as Devin Bily has agreed to represent EPM to NEMF. I will continue to try as I now have other contacts.

The usual business of approving the minutes of the 2018 meeting at Geneseo and the Treasurer's Report took place. The treasurer's report showed a loss for 2018 of \$8153.49. Part of that was a \$4602.50 deposit to Lock Haven University for the 2019 foray. It is unclear how much of a loss the 2019 foray will incur, but we did not reach the minimum number of full-paying registrants estimated to be needed to overcome the expenses.

Rick Van de Poll reported that there were two Homola Scholarship students, Anthony Sama and Zane Emery. David Rose had not provided a report on the Sam Ristich Archives except to say that work would soon resume and there would be a report later.

The NEMF web site was discussed. Getting the web master to make changes has been a problem this year. Rick Van de Poll said he knew the web master personally and that he would ride him about this the next time the foray is in the US. (The 2020 foray will be handled completely by the clubs from Canada in Quebec.)

The seven-year cycle for hosting the annual foray was discussed and the Susquehanna Valley Mycological Society asked to be returned to the 2015 groups with other clubs from western and central New York.

Frank Marra gave a report on the 2019 foray, trying to explain why the registration was so low. It had been estimated that we needed 180 regular registrants in order to break even. (We had 147 pre-registered and 6 walk-in registrations.) Reasons put forth included the location being too far west for more participants. (Both Stacey Kalechitz and I pointed out that this was not correct because the 2005 NEMF foray at Penn State Mont Alto was further west than Lock Haven and we had about the same number of attendees.) The lateness of getting the information up on the web site was also cited, not to mention the difficulty of getting changes made

to the web site. I added that I had received several inquiries indicating that people had to make a choice between the NEMF foray and the NAMA foray that was to happen a week later, and had they had information available they might well have chosen NEMF. The closeness of the two forays in location and time seemed to have played out both ways. The convenience of having them so close in location may have been attractive to some, but the closeness in scheduling seems to have forced others to commit to the NAMA foray rather than the NEMF foray.

There was significant discussion of the benefits of having a way or ways to pay fees to NEMF electronically. NEMF does have a PayPal account (NEMF2010@verizon.net) but it was pointed out that there are other more recent ways to pay as well and the younger generation would prefer to use either PayPal or one of the newer forms. I pointed out that this would be especially useful for late registrants at the foray as well as those of the coming generation that don't even have the capability to write checks.

The 2020 NEMF foray was discussed. It will be in Joliette, QC at the beginning of September. The site will be a hotel with the capability of handling the lecture rooms, ID rooms and display space we will need. As Chair of the 2020 foray, Chantal Paquet was appointed as Vice Present for one year. The 2021 foray will be put on by the Maine Mycological Association and will be at the Gould Academy in Bethel, ME at approximately the same time of year as the 2019 foray.

There was discussion of having the Toronto Mycological Society join NEMF. Roman Rabenda reported positively on the club's capability of putting on a foray for NEMF. This is a decision for the executive board and Rick Van de Poll indicated that they would discuss it.

It was noted that various clubs have individual club-based scholarships and Rick encouraged the clubs to report on anything they might have established. The Myco-Flora 2.0 project was discussed and it was agreed to budget the same \$500 for vouchering that had been the previous amount rather than commit to a certain number of submissions.

The agenda having been covered, the meeting was adjourned around 5 p.m.

EPM – 2019 FALL FORAY SCHEDULE

OPEN TO MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Saturday, September 28, 2019 – 9:30 AM – Antietam Lake Park (Angora Fruit Farm)

Linda Sears is conducting an educational event which is not a regularly scheduled club foray, but which all members are encouraged to attend. Come learn and/or help to teach others what you know about mushrooms!

Directions: From Rt. 12 E. (Pricetown Rd.): Take Spring Valley Rd. exit; turn right-continue to Hampden Blvd.; turn left onto McKnights Gap Rd.; (2 stop signs); turn left onto Skyline Dr.; continue to Bingaman Rd; turn right onto Angora Rd.; driveway on left.

502 Angora Rd., Reading PA 19606

GPS: 40.3599, -75.8828

Park Website: <https://www.visitpaamericana.com/partner/antietam-lake-park/>

Sunday, October 6, 2019 – 10 am – Wolf's Hollow County Park

Directions: From the intersection of Rt. 30 and Rt. 41 in Gap Pa, proceed about 6.5 miles. Turn right onto Highland Road. Turn left onto Bailey's Crossroads Road. Take 1st right onto Schoff Road. Turn right onto Wolf's Hollow Drive.

1399 Schoff Rd., Atglen, PA 19310

GPS: 39.9149, -75.9865

Park Website: <https://www.chesco.org/1748/Wolfs-Hollow-Park>

Sunday, October 20, 2019 – 10 am – Caledonia State Park (Michaux State Forest)

This foray is a regularly scheduled foray, but will be conducted with members of the Cumberland Woodland Owner's Association in attendance as well. It is also being advertised to the park's campground and to the public as an educational event. EPM members are free to foray as you normally do.

Directions: From 30 onto Rt. 233 North. Go .1 miles, turn left into park. Continue past park office and follow road to the left past the pool area and to the far end of the gravel parking area near the Appalachian Trail. There are facilities here.

101 Pine Grove Rd, Fayetteville, PA 17222

GPS: 39.9097, -77.4859

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

Sunday, November 3, 2019 – 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.

1200 Alpine Rd., Wellsville, PA 17365

GPS: 40.0710, -76.8883

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

Sunday, November 17, 2017 – 10 am – Fishing Creek Nature Preserve (North)

Directions: Take PA Route 272 South (the Willow Street Pike) out of Lancaster City and Willow Street. Continue south. About three miles beyond the intersection of 372, bear right off of 272 and onto Chestnut Level Road. When you come to River Road, turn left then take the next right on to Slate Hill Road. Take the immediate right onto Fishing Creek Hollow Rd. Turn right onto Furniss Rd. and then take the first left onto Fishing Creek Rd. (a dirt road). Travel less than ¼ mile to a dirt pull off area on the right.

Fishing Creek Rd., Drumore, PA 17518

GPS: 39.8098, -76.2434

Park website: <https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/preserves/fishing-creek-north/>

Sunday, December 1, 2019 – 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.

1520 Kiwanis Rd., Lancaster, PA 17602

GPS: 40.0158, -76.2824

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

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

[https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/10410/All-Pages-Cental-Park-Trail-Guide---61412-112679-COL-Parks-Map WEB-2?bidId=](https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/10410/All-Pages-Cental-Park-Trail-Guide---61412-112679-COL-Parks-Map_WEB-2?bidId=)