Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Newsletter

Fungi, Fun & Friends!

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 5 NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2026

President's Message

By Barbora Batokova

AS THE FALL season winds down, I find myself writing my last President's Message with gratitude for the people who make this club such a wonderful community. It has been a privilege to serve as your President, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished together.

We've had a great year of mushroom walks, learning, discoveries, and friendships. The Gary Lincoff Foray was a particular highlight, and this year we upped the ante with on-site DNA testing, thanks to **Ashley Laman** and **Ryan Peace** of Mycota Lab. Bringing this work into the Foray added an exciting dimension to the event and showed how our club continues to expand its contributions to mycology. Thank you to everyone who helped organize the Foray, volunteered their time, and made it such a success.

Congratulations to our newly elected slate of Officers! Thank you for stepping up to guide WPMC into its next chapter. These roles involve a great deal of work behind the scenes, and I'm grateful for the time and care you've devoted to keeping the club running. I also want to thank everyone taking on a new position, along with the volunteers who continue to give their time and expertise year after year. Our club moves forward because people are willing to help—whether by leading a walk, identifying collections, organizing an event, or tackling the many tasks that members may never see. Your contributions matter.

While my time as President is coming to a close, I'm excited to continue serving the club in my new role as NAMA Trustee. I look forward to staying involved and supporting our connections with the wider mycological community.

Enjoy the rest of the fall season and keep your eyes open as we head into winter. There are still fungi to discover, even after the leaves have fallen and the temperatures drop! Thank you for your support, your curiosity, and the many mushroom memories we've shared. See you next year, and happy mushrooming!

2026 Meeting Schedule

MONTHLY WPMC meetings are held on Tuesday evenings from March through November at the Frick Environmental Center and feature updates on Club activities, a speaker/presentation, mushroom identification table, and mushroom-related merchandise for sale. Meetings are free and open to the public. WPMC will email members in advance with a Zoom link, so that they have the option of joining remotely.

Please note that Service Animals are welcome at the Frick Environmental Center, provided they meet the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Pets and other non-service animals are not permitted.

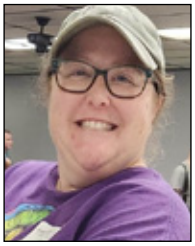
NOV. 17 Potluck & Annual WPMC Awards

For the Potluck, bring something for 6-8 people, along with serving utensils. The categories are Appetizers, Salads, Hot Dishes, Cold Plates, Soup, Casseroles, Desserts, anything you want—be creative. It does not need to be mushroom related but, if so, wild mushrooms must be identified and approved by a club Identifier or Mycologist before cooking, and any non-members will have to sign a waiver before trying them. Since electrical connections are limited, bring hot food hot, and bring cold food cold. WPMC will provide soft drinks, plates, eating utensils, napkins, and take-home boxes.

In addition, WPMC Mycologist **La Monte Yarroll** will present an overview of the Synoptic Key of Life. This key brings the open access and public domain mycology literature to you, the amateur mycologist, by guiding you through the creation of a formal description of a collection you've made. For more information, go to: *https://synoptickeyof.life*

2027 Officers Elected

AT THE OCTOBER meeting, WPMC members elected the following Officers for 2027: President **Julie Travaglini**, Vice President **Dawn Wehman**, Secretary **Jared White,** Treasurer **Marylou Lenhart**, and NAMA Trustee **Barbora Batokova**.



Julie Travaglini

Dawn Wehman

Jared White

Marylou Lenhart

Barbora Batokova

WPMC Members Achieve Certified Fungal Habitat

By Cecily Franklin

FELLOW WPMC MEMBER **Richard Franklin** and I have lived in the woods for almost 40 years, but it wasn't until 2005—after I retired from the corporate rat race—that I started my Forest Ecology Restoration Project (FERP). During the early years of FERP, I discovered numerous trees hidden under strangling grapevines and removed oceans of garlic mustard. In the process, I kept seeing UFO's—Unidentified Fungal Objects. So I took photos, bought a field guide, and joined the mushroom club. Since then, we've learned to identify many mushrooms and have enjoyed eating some of them.

This year I learned about the MycoMap Certified Fungal Habitat program and decided to apply. The website (link below) includes a "scorecard" or checklist to determine whether you have enough points to qualify. I checked off the items that apply to our property, including "Substrate" (trees, logs, stumps, and fallen leaves). Under "Soil & Stewardship" we got points for minimal soil disturbance and no use of fungicides or synthetic fertilizers. I earned additional points for "Community Science" and "Outreach" because of my ability to identify mushrooms, my use of iNaturalist, WPMC membership, and sharing on Facebook.

I counted a total of 31 points (out of a possible 48), so I proceeded to the application form. At that point, I needed to support each item, including uploading photos of the property and uploading observations from iNat. Fortunately, there was a "Save Progress" button, which I used a lot. A $25 fee was also required. It wasn't long before my application was approved and I received Official Certification and Digital Badge. Our property is now officially recognized as a Certified Fungal Habitat. For more information and to see whether you qualify, go to: *https://mycomap.org/habitat*

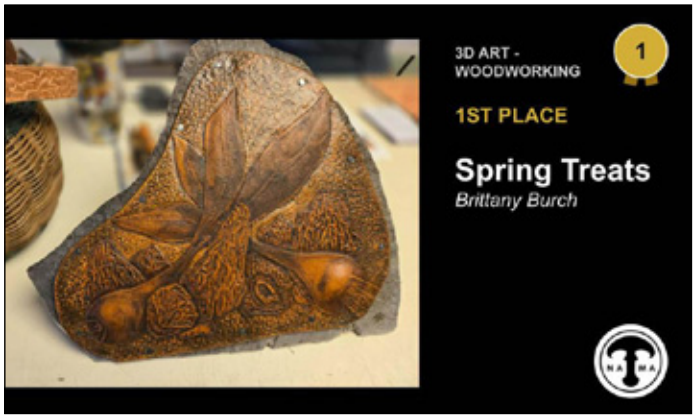
Fall Continental MycoBlitz 2026

THE FALL CONTINENTAL MycoBlitz took place from October 2-11. More than 8,500 observations were made of nearly 1,300 species. WPMC Mycologist **John Plischke** had 475 observations. For complete results, go to:

https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/fall-continental-mycoblitz-2026

NAMA Visual Arts Contest Recognizes Two WPMC Members

TWO WPMC MEMBERS won awards in this year's North American Mycological Association (NAMA) Visual Arts Contest. **Brittany Burch** won first place in the Woodworking category for "Spring Treats". WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** won second place in the Jewelry category for hand carved mushroom earrings. As a first-place winner, Brittany will receive a one-year membership in NAMA. Congratulations to both!



2026 NAMA Yoop Foray

By Cara Coulter

I WAS FORTUNATE to represent WPMC as NAMA Trustee for the second year at the annual North American Mycological Association (NAMA) Foray. This year's gathering took us to the city of Marquette, nestled along the shores of Lake Superior in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The region is widely known for its massive and iconic ore docks and its abundance of Yooperlites, a sodalite-rich rock that reveals a fiery fluorescent glow under ultraviolet light.

One of the biggest differences between this year's foray and last year's was the lack of on-site camping. Without that shared experience, the atmosphere felt a bit more formal, and there seemed to be fewer opportunities to mingle and connect with my fellow fungi fanatics. This year, I noticed fewer familiar faces than at the previous foray, but I was happy to run into fellow WPMC members **Kim and John Plischke**, along with our club's Social Media Chair, **Marissa Kolarosky** and **Jim Sinegal**.

While the lack of on-site camping had its drawbacks, the stunning landscapes and remarkable diversity of habitats more than made up for it. Michigan's Upper Peninsula proved to be a mycological paradise, with an incredible variety of fungi. Each location offered its own unique ecosystem. My adventures took me through the squishy peatlands of Kettle Hole Bog, the woodlands and scenic lakeshores of Craig Lake State Park, and along the banks of the dark, tannin-stained waters of the Dead River. Every destination seemed to be overflowing with tiny wonders.

Day 1: Kettle Hole Bog

I left my house at midnight, made the long drive to Marquette, and ended up arriving there early. Since registration didn't open until 3 pm, I decided to go foraging! After finding some really interesting sand specialist fungi, I reluctantly peeled myself away and headed to the NMU Northern Center to register for the foray. Not long after registering, I immediately drove to a bog to find more fungi!

As much as I wanted to mingle. I couldn't resist the temptation of finding all I could in the beautiful peatlands of the Upper Peninsula. Thankfully, Kettle Hole Bog didn't disappoint. Among the 20 or so species I saw, I found some beautiful *Arrhenia bigelowii*, and some perfect *Bogbodia uda* specimens. My most significant find that day was a specimen in the *Lachnaceae* family (iNat ID#395340725) that DNA has shown to be a novel sequence, meaning it's never been DNA sequenced before and could potentially be a new species!

Day 2: Craig Lake State Park

I headed out to observe and collect as many fungi as I could. This time I traveled to Craig Lake State Park. After exploring some swamps, rocky areas, and woodlands I finally ended up at the lakeside. I was able to find a great variety of species here. Once I got the DNA results back, it turns out I found several novel sequences that have not yet been assigned provisional names. These include a novel *Orbilia sp.* (iNat#395367393), two novel *Lachnum spp.* (iNat ID#395367343 & 395367344), a novel gorgeous blue *Entoloma sp.* (iNat#395367410), a novel *Cudoniella sp.* (iNat# 395367436), a novel squashy looking pink *Ombrophila sp.* (iNat#395367442), and beautiful rare *Coltricia sp.* that seems to be endemic to Michigan, called *Coltricia sp.* 'MI03'.

Day 3: Dead River

For the third day, I decided to stay somewhat close to the city of Marquette and visit the tannic Dead River. Once arriving to my location, I immediately headed towards the banks of the river and found a bunch of interesting specimens. I was planning on walking a length of the side, but I ended up barely moving from my original location. It was a fungi wonderland. I only wish I had more time here. My coolest find was a strange looking novel Asco, no longer than 5 mm tall, with a purplish top and a darkened black pseudo-stipe (iNat ID#395527523). It was not even able to be placed in an order yet—that's how distinctive its sequence was! Unfortunately, I don't have the DNA results for many of the other things I found that day, but of the two results I received, both were life species and the weird Asco was a novel sequence, so I'm pretty happy about that!

A novel Lachnum species found by Cara Coulter at Craig Lake State Park

The keynote presentation also brought wonderful and much deserved recognition for some WPMC members. I was delighted to see that our club President, **Barbora Batokova**, had been nominated for the prestigious Harry and Elsie Knighton Service Award. Although she didn't take home the award this year, it was wonderful to see her dedication and contributions to the mycological community being recognized. In addition, two WPMC members won awards in NAMA's Visual Arts Contest (see separate article).

I did finally get to enjoy some Yooperlite hunting that evening, and I found some really nice specimens! One was particularly large and fiery, while the rest were moderate in size. I also saw a rock that actually stayed glowing even after the UV light was removed. I'm not sure what it was, but it was neat.

Day 4:

After visiting the campus one last time, I said goodbye to my fellow myco-enthusiasts and headed back onto the road. All in all, it was a great trip, and I can't wait to visit the Upper Peninsula again someday. I am again grateful that I had the honor of representing WPMC on a national level as NAMA Trustee. I can't wait to see what the next NAMA Trustee gets to experience at the 2027 NAMA foray!

Mark Your Calendars for 2027 Monthly Meetings

WPMC MEETINGS ARE held on the third Tuesday evening of each month (unless otherwise noted*) from March through November at the Frick Environmental Center. NOTE: three dates have been adjusted for next year:

March 23* **April 20** **May 11* – Annual Cultivation Meeting**

June 15 **July 20** **August 17** **Sept. 28***

Oct. 19 – Photo Contest Results, Election of Officers, Costume Contest

Nov. 16 – Potluck & Annual Awards

Out & About with WPMC

ON SEPTEMBER 16, WPMC President **Barbora Batokova** presented "Ten Mushrooms Everyone Should Know" at Phipps Conservatory.

ON OCTOBER 2, Barbora gave the same presentation to the Uniontown Green Gardeners.

ON SEPTEMBER 21, WPMC Identifier **Josh Mowris** joined Seneca Valley's Outdoor Education Program for an exploratory mushroom walk on the secondary campus.

ON OCTOBER 3, WPMC Mycologist **Jim Tunney** led a walk and hosted a table at Riverview Park for RP Day.

ON OCTOBER 23, WPMC Mycologists **Stephen Bucklin** and **Barbora Batokova** and WPMC Identifier **Dirk Cappo** led a mushroom walk at Frick Park for Carnegie Mellon University's School of Architecture.

ON OCTOBER 29, WPMC President **Barbora Batokova** gave a talk and led a mushroom walk with ID table for a homeschool group in Washington, PA.

Donations Help Fund WPMC Projects

LOOKING FOR A way to support WPMC beyond paying your annual dues? Make a donation anytime; it's tax-deductible because WPMC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. If you're age 73 or above, you can reduce your taxable income by directing some of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

Donations may be made in honor or in memory of a loved one. Your employer may even match your contribution. Make checks payable to Western PA Mushroom Club and submit them to our Treasurer, **Mike Henry**.

Do Your Holiday Shopping at Spreadshop!

SHOW YOUR WPMC pride by purchasing customized Club gear from spreadshop.com. The WPMC Merch Store offers many products with the WPMC logo, including shirts of various styles, hats, mugs, aprons, tote bags, and more. Whether it's for men, women, or toddlers, you get to choose the size and color! Buy for yourself or as one-of-a-kind gifts. All purchases benefit WPMC.

https://western-pa-mushroom-club.myspreadshop.com/

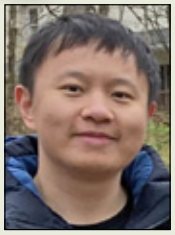
WPMC Scholarship Committee

WPMC ADMINISTERS AN annual Scholarship/Grant program to promote wild mushrooming by providing monetary support for attending educational events, projects, research, or mycological studies by individuals or institutions. Application forms are available on our website and must be sponsored by a WPMC member. For more information or to register, go to:

https://wpamushroomclub.org/education/wpmc-scholarship-grant-application/

WPMC Awards ID Buttons & Names New Identifier

Kate Gaglio

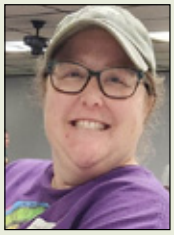

Daoyuan Jia

Bill Kochanov

Alberto Almarza

Isaac King

Sara Klingensmith


Julie Travaglini

SEVEN WPMC MEMBERS recently earned ID Buttons in recognition of their ability to identify mushroom species: **Kate Gaglio** and **Daoyuan Jia** (150), **Bill Kochanov** (225), **Alberto Almarza** (300), **Isaac King** (350), **Sara Klingensmith** (400), and **Julie Travaglini** (700). In addition, the Board approved of making **Isaac King** a WPMC Identifier. *Congratulations to all!*

WPMC's Button ID Button Program offers members a fun way to increase their knowledge of mushroom species. To learn more about the ID Button Program and how to submit your list of known mushrooms, go to:

http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/button-id-program/

2026 WPMC PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

WPMC Photography Chair **Sara Klingensmith** judged this year's Photo Contest and made a video of all 99 photos submitted. Here are Sara's favorites:

1. **ADVANCED PICTORIAL: First Place: Josh Doty.**
2. **ADVANCED PICTORIAL HONORABLE MENTION: Cara Coulter – *Hypholoma sp.***
3. **ADVANCED PICTORIAL: Second Place: Barbora Batokova – *Gliophorus cf. fumosus***
4. **NOVICE PICTORIAL: Second Place: Isaac King – Veiled Panus**

5. JUDGE'S OPTION: HONORABLE MENTION: Bill Kochanov – "Gettin' on the Bus"
6. DOCUMENTARY: Third Place: Cara Coulter – *Lactarius helvus*
7. DOCUMENTARY: First Place: Barbora Batokova – *Daldinia childiae*
8. JUDGE'S OPTION: First Place: Isaac King – Green Wood Cup
9. JUDGE'S OPTION: Third Place: Jim Sinegal

10. ADVANCED PICTORIAL HONORABLE MENTION: Josh Mowris

11. NOVICE PICTORIAL HONORABLE MENTION: Julie Travaglini

12. MUSHROOM ART: First Place: Vince Wojtyna

13. MUSHROOM ART: Third Place: Marissa Kolarosky

14

17

15

18

16

14. NOVICE PICTORIAL HONORABLE MENTION: Marlene Strege – *Trametes*

15. MUSHROOM ART: Second Place: Cara Coulter – *Brunnipila fuscescens*

16. JUDGE'S OPTION: Second Place: Ed Jones

17. NOVICE PICTORIAL HONORABLE MENTION: Katie Manion – Stinky Squid

18. DOCUMENTARY: Second Place: Stephen Bucklin – *Vulpicida pinastri*

19. NOVICE PICTORIAL: Third Place: Dale Pinto

20. ADVANCED PICTORIAL: Third Place: Stephen Bucklin – *Mycena haematopus*

21. JUDGE'S OPTION HONORABLE MENTION: Katie Manion – "Nice to Meet You"

22. NOVICE PICTORIAL: First Place: Sarah Adkins – Jack

Cook Forest UV Walk

By Jared White, WPMC Mycologist

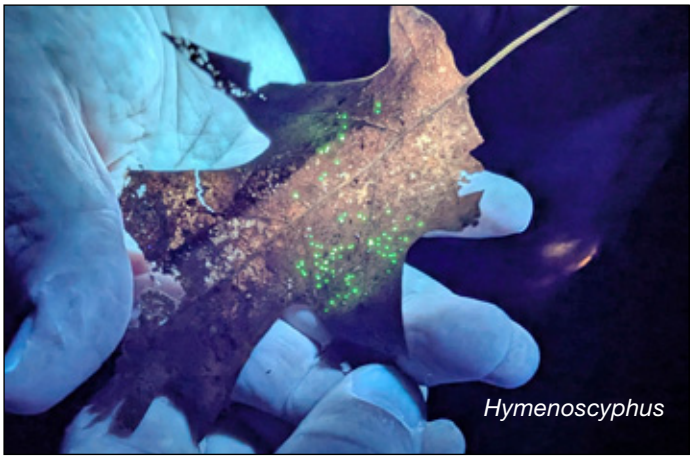
ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8th, twenty-four(ish) brave souls entered the Cathedral Trails for our Annual Cook Forest Fluorescent Fungi Foray led by me and club favorite ranger, **Dale Luthringer**, who does a perfect barred owl call. We'd literally be lost without Dale. Thanks to **Tom McCoy** (President of the Mycological Association of Washington, DC) for easing us into the UV world with a great impromptu talk about fluorescence, using reactive minerals and describing the function and variety of bioluminescence and fluorescence in fungi and animals.

We hit the trail and immediately began to see pops of neon blue, magenta, orange, and yellow. Common dust lichen like *Lepraria cryophila* shine an icy blue, while other crustose lichen like *Ochrolechia* blaze the brightest yellow. Many ubiquitous and overlooked *Russula sp.* were found lurking in the leaves, given away by their bright pale yellow and purplish glow. One little patch of small drab *Laccaria cf. striatula* gave us a nice little show with a flash of deep neon blueberry tones.

As usual, many millipedes, both dead and alive, were seen ghostly aglow under our magic flashlights. But for me, the star(s) of the show was a brilliant constellation of *Hymenoscyphus* found by Matt Wehman. When the UV light hit that dead leaf, these tiny, easily overlooked cups shone like a hundred stars in his hand. Pure mycological magic. Upon exiting the forest, the real stars greeted us in such numbers you'll never see near the 'burgh.

If you missed out this year, please join us next year for Cook Forest After-Dark. We meet at sunset by the Log Cabin Environmental Center on the Thursday evening before the big Lincoff Foray weekend.

You now have a year to gather your gear, so here's a list of essentials: 365nm UV flashlight (395nm is cheaper and will work but it does put out more visible light that washes out fluorescence) • UV protection safety glasses • Headlamp/flashlight with red-light • Warm clothes • *Mycothusiasm!!*



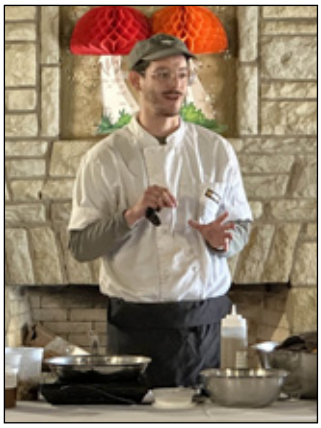
Hymenoscyphus

Russula peckii

Photo Faves from the Foray

Mary Jo Smiley and Keela Nelson assembled cultivation kits.

Photo by Cecily Franklin



Chef Sam Bucklin showed us how to make Hongos Asados.

Photo by Becka Jean Marsh

Student scholarship recipients Momo Almarza, Ivory Adger, and Nao Johnson.

Photo by Stephen Bucklin

Guest Mycologists Alden Dirks and Kristen Wickert with WPMC President Barbora Batokova.

Photo by Alberto Almarza

FRIDAY AT COOK FOREST

By Marylou Lenhart

Photo by Barbora Batokova

WE WANT TO THANK everybody who came to our pre-Foray walk at Cook Forest this year! We had about 40 identifiers helping us to find 175 different species. *Cordyceps* was having its moment this year; we had 16 observations of *Cordyceps tenuipes*. We also got to see some of our favorites in abundance like Hen of the Woods (*Grifola frondosa*), Blewits (*Collybia nuda*), and Hedgehogs (*Hydnum umbilicatum*).

Some other cool observations that were made include:

- Green Wood Cup (*Chlorociboria aeruginascens*): a personal favorite, as seeing the actual cups is rare
- Golden Reishi (*Ganoderma curtisii*): a lovely native mushroom
- Ravenel's Stinkhorn (*Phallus ravenelii*): 5 observations of this one

A special thank you goes out to everyone who contributed, especially:

- WPMC Mycologist **Richard Jacob** provided us with some tech to make it easier to label our finds for DNA analysis, and that was delightful. If we added our observations to iNaturalist, we got to print out our identification sheets instead of writing them by hand this year.
- Our own club Identifiers and Mycologists: **John Plischke, Cara Coulter, Richard Jacob, Stephen Bucklin, Dawn Wehman, Mike Henry, Barbora Batokova**, and many more.
- Everyone who collected species, especially those who uploaded photos to the iNaturalist project.
- Everyone who spent time processing the samples for DNA analysis.
- All of the other foray organizers.

We are grateful to everyone who attended. It's always lovely to traverse Cook Forest with all of you. Thanks again, and we can look forward to seeing what the DNA analysis will return from this year in future WPMC newsletters.

Foray Recipe: Candy Cap Chex Mix

By Ashley Laman

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 tsp. candy cap powder (finely ground)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- Pinch of black trumpet salt
- 3 3/4 cups Corn Chex cereal
- 3 3/4 cups Rice Chex cereal
- 2 cups Cheerios
- 2 cups dehydrated mushroom slices (use baby portobellos)
- 2 cups tiny pretzel twists or sticks
- Flaky black trumpet salt

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Preheat oven to 250 degrees F.
- In a large mixing bowl, melt butter. Whisk in sugar, candy caps, vanilla, and pinch of BT (black trumpet) salt until it's dissolved.
- Add cereal, bello chips, and pretzels to bowl and toss to combine.
- Spread on a large baking sheet and bake for 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes until golden brown.
- Sprinkle with BT salt (flaky salt is my favorite) and let cool completely.

Saturday at The Lodge in North Park

By Katie Manion

WHAT A WEEKEND! WPMC's 26th Annual Gary Lincoff Memorial Foray brought together mushroom enthusiasts, curious foragers, and mycology experts for an unforgettable celebration of all things fungal at The Lodge at North Park. Held on October 10, our annual foray gathered about 120 participants in a celebration of all things fungal. Morning activities kicked off with a warm welcome from Club President **Barbora Bakotova** and an update on the eDNA project given by WPMC Mycologist **Richard Jacob**. Then attendees hit the trails around North Park as club Identifiers and Mycologists led six different morning walks, perfect for beginner and experienced mushroomers alike.

As morning returned to North Park Lodge, tables filled with specimens, showcasing the fungal diversity to be found in the region. With a new process for labeling specimens, club members uploaded their photos to iNaturalist and printed labels to be kept alongside specimens. A busy team of volunteers moved specimens upstairs for the table talk and preparation for DNA analysis.

While the scientific work was happening, coffee and snacks provided by volunteers and the kitchen crew supplemented lunch and provided much-needed fuel for a full day of activities. **Chef Sam Bucklin**, who currently serves as Chef de Cuisine at Round Corner Cantina in Lawrenceville, demonstrated his preparation of Hongos Asados. His cooking demo was as fun to watch as the dish was delicious to sample. And of course, there is always time to stop by the sales table for a new mushroom book or WPMC T-shirt.

The lunch break was a perfect opportunity to connect with fellow mushie friends and peruse the one-of-a-kind mushroom wares on offer at the auction table. Who could resist purchasing a few raffle tickets with the chance to win amazing and unique mushroom finds, including vintage books and prints, T-shirts, and handmade art? After bidding on a few choice items, the next stop was the cultivation table to pick up grow kits for either oyster mushrooms or wine caps and keep the foray fun going at home!

This year's foray speakers provided meaningful insights into the world of fungal plant pathogens and false morels. **Dr. Kristen Wickert** took us deep into forest health, revealing how plant pathogenic fungi act as nature's hidden balance keepers. **Dr. Alden Dirks** demystified the complex world of false morels, sharing his fascinating research on their genetic diversity, toxicity variations, and how mushrooms might someday send us into space.

Our fantastic speakers also led a table talk with a new twist. Kristen and Alden were able to present select mushrooms from the table, while WPMC Identifier **Dawn Wehman** projected the mushroom on a screen for everybody to see. This was a fantastic addition to the table talk, adding a great visual element to the entertaining and enlightening remarks from our speakers.

It wouldn't be the WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray without the renowned mushroom feast. **Mike Henry** and the kitchen crew worked tirelessly all day to prepare a fantastic culinary celebration. Delicious dishes abounded and plates overflowed with entrees, side dishes, and desserts prepared by club members. Thank you to everybody who shared your culinary talents with us! It was a wonderful end to the evening, and many volunteers stayed afterward to help clean up.

WPMC is full of generous people who enthusiastically share their time and expertise. This generosity is apparent nowhere more than during the annual foray. Countless volunteers pitch in to help set up, clean up, troubleshoot technology, handle logistics, and so much more. Thank you to everybody who attended, volunteered, or supported the event in any way. We could not do it without you!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for September 17, 2027, when we will join to do it all again!

Lorchels. *Photo courtesy of Alden Dirks*

Kitchen Crew Creates Culinary Classics

ONCE AGAIN, WPMC members created another legendary Foray Feast. Here's a list of everyone who contributed dishes to this year's Foray Feast.

SOUPS:

Carrot Ginger Soup – Jim & Martha Wasik

Chanterelle Corn Chowder – Kim Plischke

Creamy Mushroom, Egg & Dill Soup – Barbora Batokova

Hungarian Mushroom Soup – Jared Delaney

APPETIZERS:

Abortive Entolomas with Cocktail Sauce – Carol Watkins

Bean Dip – Mike Henry

Crackers – Cecily Franklin

Deviled Eggs – Liz Whitewolf

Hen of the Woods Salsa – Kim Plischke

Salsa Verde – Richard Jacob

Texas Caviar with tortilla chips – Nicole Paronish

SALADS:

Asian slaw – Michelle Wirkner & Julia Krebs

Caprese Salad – Vince & Teresa Wojtyna

Kale Salad – Stephen Bucklin

Macaroni salad – Sandy McKnight

Mediterranean Chickpea Salad – Chad Dougherty

Potato Salad – Ian Reinstadtler

Rigatoni Pasta Salad – Jennifer Uhlman

Slaw with Hen of the Woods – Jim Tunney

ENTREES:

Chanterelle Street Corn Enchiladas with Barbacoa– Mike Henry

Buffalo Chicken of the Woods Pizza – Mike Henry

Chicken Sliders – Julie Case

Cordyceps Linguine – Marylou Lenhart

Golden Chili – Boogie & Lex

Hen of the Woods Stroganoff – Cherie Cornmesser

Sauteed Chicken of the Woods – Barbara DeRiso

Maiale al Latte (milk-braised pork) – Richard Jacob

Rotisserie Chicken – Barbara DeRiso

Turkey Wellington – Scott Pavelle

SIDE DISHES:

Cordyceps Rice Pilaf – Theresa Colecchia

Farro with mushrooms – Richard Jacob

Matsutake Fried Rice – Kim Plischke

Mexican Rice – Mike Henry

Mushroom Pies – Paula Breuer

Shiitake Noodles – Xiaoyan Cai

DESSERTS:

Candied cordyceps brownie bites – Theresa Colecchia

Candy Cap Chex Mix – Dawn Wehman

Cookies with fall-colored icing – Jennie Joneikis

Cookies & chocolate covered pretzels – Rhonda Hook

Mushroom Cupcakes – Becka Jean Marsh

Nut Roll – Martha Bishop

Scotcharoos – Isaac King

Sweet Potato Pie – Gabby & Tanner

(Photos by Barbora Batokova)

Mike Henry with Chanterelle Street Corn Enchiladas with Barbacoa

Cupcakes by Becka Jean Marsh

Turkey Wellington by Scott Pavelle

L-R: Kate & Scott Pavelle, Sean Manion, Mike Henry, Marylou Lenhart, Keela Nelson, Peter Humphrey, Aimee Thorne, Nick Ross, Barbara DeRiso.

Welcome WPMC's Youngest Member

WELCOME TO WPMC'S youngest member—**Silas James Cobbett**. Silas means "man of the forest" and he's already reportedly finding mushrooms. (Notice his blanket). Proud parents are **Nathan Cobbett** and **Joy LeViere**.

Membership Report

By Dawn Wehman

AS OF OCTOBER 26, we have 608 members from 382 households. Your membership dues are essential to keeping the club thriving and support over 40% of WPMC's annual income. To join or renew, simply visit: *https://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/* and follow the instructions provided.

As a WPMC member, you'll enjoy:

- Nine monthly meetings with guest speakers & mushroom identification
- A free mushroom grow kit at our annual May cultivation meeting
- Five electronic WPMC newsletters
- Advance notice of mushroom walks and other local, regional & national events
- Members-only photo contest
- Members-only costume contest
- Access to the WPMC Facebook Group
- A discount at the annual Gary Lincoff Foray

Foray Auction Needs New Team

By Cecily Franklin

THANKS TO THE generous donations and enthusiastic participation of WPMC members, we raised more than $450 from this year's Lincoff Foray auction. After 13 years, I will no longer be organizing and running the auction. If you would like to join the effort to keep this fundraiser going, or if you have other ideas for a fundraising activity, please email me at cfranklin@wpamushroomclub.org.

WPMC Walks & Events

DAY AND TIME for walks vary. Please read carefully for any registration requirements or fees. For updates, directions, and much more, check the website at *www.wpamushroomclub.org/events*

The Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club does not endorse or support the commercial harvesting of wild mushrooms from any state, county or city park. WPMC does promote the gathering of mushrooms—where permitted—for recreational, educational, and scientific purposes. If you would like to lead a WPMC walk, or if you know a great walk location, please email WPMC Identifier **Josh Mowris** at walks@wpamushroomclub.org.

NOVEMBER 7, 1-4:00 P.M.

Hays Woods Park – Lichens & Air Quality
1015 Agnew Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Join the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and the Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP) for a walk through the hidden trails of Hays Woods! WPMC Mycologist **Stephen Bucklin** will guide attendees on a search for lichens and Program & Education Manager Laura Kuster will discuss the state of our air. Meet at the Agnew Trailhead entrance for an invigorating hike. Tickets are $10; register at this link:

https://pittsburghparks.org/event/trail-tour-in-hays-woods-park-lichens-and-air-quality/

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 11 AM-1 PM

Hartwood Acres

Join WPMC Mycologist **Richard Jacob** for our annual Thanksgiving weekend mushroom walk at Hartwood Acres and walk off all that turkey with a Black Friday mushroom hunt. Note a slightly delayed start so that we hit the warmest part of the day. It's been warm, it's been freezing cold, and it's been wet, but we're going to get outside and find some of nature's treasures. Meet at the Mansion parking lot. Free and open to the public; no registration required.

WPMC Newsletter

THE NEWSLETTER OF the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club is published five times a year: March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December. Articles, photos, news items and other submissions should be sent to the Editor at least 6-8 weeks prior to targeted distribution. The Editor cannot guarantee that submissions will be included in the next newsletter. The Editor reserves the right to make spelling or grammatical corrections and may suggest content changes to the author. Material published in our newsletters may only be used in other non-profit publications with expressed permission and with appropriate acknowledgements.

Cecily Franklin, Editor
Martha Wasik Graphic Arts, Production

Send submissions to:
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NEVER
Eat an unidentified mushroom!

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WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW MEMBERSHIP: ❑ RENEWAL: ❑

COMPLETE THIS FORM **PRINT CLEARLY**, SIGN AND MAIL

Benefits: WPMC newsletter • Nine monthly WPMC meetings • Free participation in WPMC walks • Discount for WPMC forays

Name (s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Interests (*e.g.: foraging, identification, cooking, etc.*) _____

PLEASE PRINT IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERING. TAKE SPECIAL CARE WITH EMAIL ADDRESSES: numeral "1," uppercase "i" and lowercase "L" look the same.

Please return completed, signed and dated form (with check payable to Western PA Mushroom Club) to:

WPMC, c/o Dawn Wehman 285 Kindale Street Ellwood City PA 16117 • membership@wpamushroomclub.org

or visit *http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/* to pay using a credit card.

Please indicate your newsletter/event announcement preference: ❑ Electronic via e-mail ❑ Hardcopy via US mail ($15 additional)

❑ $20 Individual ❑ $25 Family ❑ $15 Full-time Student ❑ $15 Newsletter Hardcopy Amount enclosed: $ _____

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Release and Indemnification Agreement

This Release and Indemnification Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into by and between the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club, as it is presently organized and may be later structured ("WPMC") and the undersigned Member (the "Member") on this _____ day of _____, 20____.

WHEREAS, WPMC is a non-profit educational organization that has as its principal purpose the sharing of mushroom-related information among its members; and

WHEREAS, all officers, directors, identifiers and members serve WPMC in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for their services; and

WHEREAS, in cases where WPMC charges a fee for its forays, walks, lectures and other events (collectively "WPMC Events"), it is doing so only to cover its direct costs and does not operate in a for-profit capacity; and WHEREAS, the Member understands that there is inherent and unavoidable risk in outdoor activities relating to hunting and consuming wild mushrooms. These risks include but are not limited to the dangers of hiking in difficult terrain, the possibility of misidentifying a wild mushroom, and the possible allergic or toxic reaction that some individuals may have to otherwise edible mushrooms.

NOW THEREFORE, the Member hereby agrees to the following:

1. The Member assumes all risks associated with WPMC Events. The Member expressly acknowledges that it is the Member's sole responsibility to hike safely and to determine whether a wild mushroom may be consumed.
2. The Member releases, holds harmless, and indemnifies the WPMC, its officers, directors, identifiers, and representatives from any and all liability relating to any injury or illness incurred by the Member or the Member's family members as a result of participation in a WPMC Event.

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If any portion of the Agreement is declared for any reason to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement. This Agreement shall apply to all current and future WPMC events.

MEMBERS:

SIGNATURE (Members under age 18: signature of parent or guardian)	PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY:
1 _____	1 _____
2 _____	2 _____
3 _____	3 _____
4 _____	4 _____