



# L.I. SPOREPRINT

1973-2017

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VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1, SPRING, 2017

## FINDINGS AFIELD

It may be a bit premature to feature this species here, as it does not bear an appellation, but its story is so interesting I had to share it. To some, just another *Inocybe*, to be shrugged off as unidentifiable; but to aficionados of this difficult genus, not to be ignored.

It was found Sept. 21 in Moore's Woods, Greenport, an area of hardwoods we rarely access. The stipe was of a striking lavender hue, an unusual feature. My attempts to identify it were unsuccessful, although I thought it might be a member of the *cinninata* group. DNA sequencing performed by Alvalab in Spain showed 100% similarity to a species in the Venice herbarium identified as *Inocybe grammopodia*, a Mediterranean species originally described from Morocco.

I consulted with Brandon Matheny of the University of Kentucky, the foremost N.A. *Inocybe* scholar, who very generously gave of his time. After accessing the original Latin description and illustration of the type specimen (in "Flor des Champignons Superieurs du Maroc, 1970") he concluded that the original identification of the Venetian specimen was

*(Continued on page 4)*



*Inocybe aff. pusio*

## THE SEASON'S BOUNTY

We have now experienced two dry years in succession, both with only 39 inches of rain, the fourth and fifth driest on record since 1949, according to the Brookhaven National Lab records. Despite the similarity, the rainfall pattern differed, as did our collecting year. In 2015 all forays from mid-July through the beginning of October were cancelled due to lack of fungi, while in 2016,



Tom Bobrick's July Muttontown Foray Collection

July and August rainfall improved, so that we had one successful foray in each of those months (still less than desired) and three in September. Autumn rainfall was close to normal, so only two cancellations were necessary.

Black Morels, always scarce on Long Island, have now completely eluded collectors, while Yellow Morels, extremely rare here, continue in that category, with a few persistent foragers stumbling across one or two. Our Spring mainstay, the Spring Oyster, *Pleurotus populinus*, has not forsaken us, although numbers were diminished, and our traditional site unproductive. An early Spring appearance of *Leccinum aurantiacum* in good number (now rechristened *L. vulpinum*) was unexpected but more than welcome. Boletes numbers were improved over 2015, and our mid-July Bethpage foray produced good quantities of the Summer Bolete, *Boletus reticulatus*, and a nice variety of others. August and September forays continued in this vein, with satisfactory amounts for the table as well as a number of new species. *Boletus rubellus* was unusually prolific, and the

*(Continued on page 4)*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring greetings to all! The snow is finally a thing of the past and we are seeing some rainfall. There will be no predictions from me on mushrooms this time...but here's hoping.

Some of the forays this year will see changes in the woods. The DEC has widened quite a few trails for fire trucks. Also many pine beetle ridden trees in eastern Suffolk have been cut down to try to stop this awful infestation. Christie is now off limits when it comes to parking but we probably will be able to access the area by walking from the equestrian entrance if the area is fruitful. Our late president, Dom Laudato, was fond of foraging in eastern Suffolk. With that in mind, the board has designated a new foray in Dom's memory which will take place in Riverhead in the fall and is a new area for the club.

You will see that there are fewer forays this

year as so many were cancelled last season. This could be changed and more added if conditions dictate. (Don't forget to let us know if you find a productive area that can be shared.)

The club recently held our annual board meeting. I always knew the members had the best wishes for the club at heart but I was overwhelmed by the response for volunteers for tasks that need to be done. In fact, everyone offered to do something. With people so busy these days we are so very lucky to have such a great group. So thank so much to you all. (You can see the new titles on page 2 of the Sporeprint.)

One last thing: don't forget to treat your clothes for ticks and chiggers. They are everywhere.

See you along the trail!

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In keeping with our tradition, the Spring issue lists all the upcoming regional and national forays, as well as other venues for members to explore travel and educational options. In the past, members have taken courses and attended foreign forays, and we hope that this will continue. We are now requesting that anyone who does so in the future considers contributing a short account or a photo essay to this publication. In fact, we would appreciate a write-up of any interesting mushroom related experiences that you might have. For example, a good day's collecting, an unexpected find, a gourmet experience, photos of good finds, interesting species, etc. This

publication needs to hear from new voices.

We continue to provide identification aids and other useful information on our website: Tick prevention and removal data can be accessed under the resources tab. (Permethrin spray for clothing is highly recommended.) If you lose or misplace the printed foray schedule included in this issue, it can be downloaded from the "Members Only" section. The new annual password will be emailed to all members before the first foray.

Bessette's Key to Waxcaps is available on our homepage, which shortly will host the latest version of Matheny's Key to Eastern species of *Inocybe*.



**MATERIAL FOR THE SUMMER, 2017 EDITION SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR BY JUNE 1ST.**

(Submissions may be forwarded by email in any format or typed.)

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(All unsigned articles authored by editor.)

**President: Peggy Horman**  
**Vice-president: Jacques Brochard**  
**Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Peggy Horman**  
**Tel: (631) 744-4965**  
**owls2@optonline.net**  
**Recording Secretary: Carol Capaldo**  
**Foray Chairman: Jacques Brochard**  
**Webmaster: Dale Robins**  
**Science Adviser: Benjamin Wolfe, Asst. Prof.,**

**Dept. of Biology, Tufts University**  
**Sporeprint Editor: Joel Horman (631)744-4965**  
**e-mail: jlhorman@optonline.net**  
**Editorial Ass't: Peggy Horman**  
**Yahoo Group Coordinator: Maria Saffioti**  
**msotolongo@optonline.net**  
**Communications Officer: Richard Capaldo**  
**Species Recorder: Roger Eklund**  
**Board Members: Tony Mish**

NEW SPECIES 2016 (990 total)

**SPECIES**                      **COLLECTOR (if other than editor)**

- Agaricus argenteus (Roger Eklund)
- Agaricus floridanus
- Amanita ravenelii (Michael Eipper)
- Boletus luridellus (Roger Eklund)
- Camarops petersii (Jacques Brochard)
- Clitocybe phyllophila
- Cortinarius malachus (Askold Strat)
- Cortinarius mammosus
- Ganoderma curtisii (Peggy Horman)
- Hydnellum concrescens
- Inocybe aff. pusio
- Inocybe subdecurrens (previously collected but omitted)
- Lactariusalachuanus (Peggy Horman)
- Lactarius fuliginosus/fumosus (Peggy Horman)
- Leratiomycesceres (2015- Jacques Brochard)
- Lepiota miamensis
- Leucoagaricus jubilai
- Leucoagaricus meleagris
- Mycenastrum corium (Aaron Norarevian)
- Oxyporus cuneatus (Peggy Horman)
- Pleurotus pulmonarius
- Pluteus lutescens/romellii
- Psathyrella bipellis (2013)
- Ramaria flava var. parvispora
- Rigidoporus crocatus (Tom Bigelow)
- Rubroboletus rhodosanguineus (Alexandra Grzesik)
- Trichia varia [slime mold] (Anthony Sama)
- Tubaria conspersa



*Boletus luridellus*



*Leucoagaricus meleagris*



*Rubroboletus rhodosanguineus*



*Ramaria flava var. parvispora*



*Tubaria conspersa*



*Cortinarius malachus*



*Pluteus lutescens*



*Lactariusalachuanus*

TREASURER'S ANNUAL SUMMARY FOR 2016

<u>Balance from 2015</u>			\$3215.78
Membership Dues	1305.00		
Interest/Misc.	.37		
Sub-Total		1305.37	\$4521.
 <u>Disbursements</u>			
NAMA Dues 2017	30.00		
Newsletter expenses (includes printing, mailing, supplies, & misc. notices)	671.47		
Treasurer's expenses (postage, supplies, board meeting, Mushroom Day, flowers- Dom's funeral.)	143.32		
Sub-Total		-844.79	
<u>Balance as of Dec. 31, 2016</u>			\$3676.36

Respectfully submitted.....Margaret Horman, Treasurer

**FINDINGS AFIELD** (Continued from page 1)

reappearance of *Boletus floridanus* (now *Exudoporus floridanus*). was a nice surprise. Missing on these forays, and indeed entirely throughout our foraging season, was Black Trumpet, *Craterellus fallax*. Its relative, the Chanterelle, was also not much in evidence. However, in early August we collected the Summer Oyster, *Pleurotus pulmonarius*, for the first time. (Although widespread, this species is surprisingly listed in only one of the Eastern guide books, Walt Sturgeon's "Mushrooms of the Northeast".)

With Autumn rainfall approaching normal, collecting followed suit, and Mushroom Day at Planting Fields was easily populated with all the eye

pleasers the public exclaims over, and a new *Agaricus* species was collected here (see New Species, p.3) In late October Peconic Hills produced prodigious amounts of the Gypsy, *Cortinarius caperata*, and additional edibles, including the only cantharelloid species this year, *Cantharellus ignicolor*. *Tricholmas* and *Hygrophorus* in Rocky Pt were somewhat reduced, but still abundant. Our last foray of the year at Welwyn produced loads of Brick Caps, but no Oysters, which however made their appearance in December and were happily collected by persistent foragers.

In sum, despite another year of near record drought, LIMC salvaged a satisfactory collecting year thanks to intrepid and persistent reconnaissance, 

**FINDINGS AFIELD** (Continued from page 1)

incorrect, as the description of the type specimen was not a match for my collection. Malencon's specimens lacked coloration on the stipe and differed microscopically as well. Inasmuch as the L.I. collection displayed a 100% DNA similarity to the Venetian one the latter must also fail to match Malencon's. The latter had been identified by Enrico Bizio, an Italian researcher who, when contacted, readily agreed that his original identification was incorrect, something he had already concluded. Moreover, he expanded upon this to indicate that recently more examples of this species have come to light in several locations in Italy ( Venice, Montebelluna, etc.) and that their

DNA matches 100% to the original as well as to the Long Island collection..

He and his colleagues are preparing a paper dealing with section *Lilacinae*, where it will be placed, describing it as a new species. The phylogenetic tree generated in GenBank shows it to be closely related to *I. pusio*, a northern European species also found in the Pacific NW. In turn *I. pusio* is also a sister species to *I. cincinnata*, another West Coast species with lilac coloration, and my original speculation.

Until the new species name is published, we can only refer to it as *Inocybe aff. pusio*. In due course, it will be donated to the NYBG Herbarium, perhaps as the first North American record. 

## GLEANINGS.. from the research literature

■ **NEANDERTHALS ATE MUSHROOMS:** Previous researchers had gathered suggestive evidence of mushroom spores from Neanderthal tools (see Gleanings, Spring 2015) and the most recent investigations get us a bit further: into jaws and teeth. This recent study analyzed the DNA found in dental plaque of several individuals found in caves in Belgium and Spain, about 45,000 years old. The ones from Belgium, a cold plains environment, were heavy meat eaters but also had DNA of *Coprinopsis cinerea* in their dental tartar. The Spanish Neanderthals, on the other hand, probably forest dwellers, revealed mostly DNA of a plant based diet, along with that of *Schizophyllum commune*, disdained here but still widely consumed in Asia and Africa. Another interesting item was evidence of poplar bark, a source of salicylic acid, the main ingredient of aspirin, which was possibly used for self medication, as one individual suffered from a dental abscess. (*Neanderthal behaviour, diet, and disease inferred from ancient DNA in dental calculus. LS Weyrich et al, Nature, 08 March 2017 pub, online.*)

■ **INFECTED TRICHOLOMAS:** This tidbit was not derived from the journals, but is of interest nevertheless. Contributors to Mushroom Observer, an online forum, recently discussed the origin of the pinkish red stains sometimes evident on late season Tricholomas, particularly the lighter pigmented ones, (such as *T. niveipes*) where staining is more evident. The cause is a bacterium, *Serratia marsecens*, an opportunistic pathogen which also infects humans with depressed immune systems. Presumably, the freezing temperatures of late Autumn weaken the mushrooms defenses. It is ubiquitous in the environment, and the cause of the pink staining sometimes seen in sinks, bathtubs, etc., but is no threat to healthy individuals, Nevertheless, it would be prudent not to consume any mushrooms with red staining, and to be careful when handling them if one has any cuts or bruises. An interesting side note is the observation that Hoof Mushroom (*Fomes fomentarius*) extracts exhibit antimicrobial properties against *Serratia*.

■ **SUILLUS SHAKEUP:** A very wide-ranging phylogenetic study of *Suillus* species worldwide has resulted in some expected and many unexpected conclusions. For the most part, DNA (ITS segments) analysis shows that morphologically based taxonomy is generally correct. However, it appears that some species have been named several times, some are undescribed, and some groups cannot be resolved by ITS data alone. On the basis of their analysis the authors suggest, firstly, some synonymies: *S. neoalbidipes* with *S. glandulosipies*; *S. lactifluus* with *S. granulatus*; *S. himalayensis* with *S. americanus*. Secondly, some substitutions: *S. clintonianus* in the place of the North American *S. grevillei*, *S. weaverae* for North American *S. granulatus*, *S. ampliporus* in the place of the North American *S. cavipes*, and *S. elbensis* in place of the North American *S. viscidus*. Some of these were already in usage, and may be found in the Bessette's new "*Boletes of Eastern NA*". Others will surely meet resistance. (*Phylogenetic assessment of global Suillus ITS sequences supports morphologically defined species and reveals synonymous and undescribed taxa. NH Nguyen, et al Mycologia, 2016, Vol 108, No.6, p.1216-28*)

■ **ORIGINS OF ARMILLARIA:** The Honey Mushrooms family is well known for its complexity and cryptic members. This multicontinental study (over 50 contributors) went to great lengths to elucidate these relationships, utilizing several different DNA segments and advanced statistical methods. One conclusion was that there exist four superclades in the Northern Hemisphere: **Socialis/Tabescens; Mellea; Gallica** including *A. calvescens* in Eastern NA; **Solidipes/Ostoyae** including two *A. solidipes/osotya* clades in NA and *A. gemina* in Eastern NA. *A. mellea*, *A. solidipes* (= *A. ostoyae*), *A. socialis* (= *A. tabescens*), *A. gallica* and *A. cepistipes* have been shown to occur naturally in Europe, Asia and N.A. The authors suggest that the distribution of circumboreal *Armillaria* species resulted from geological processes resulting from the tectonic separation of Laurasia and Gondwana 145-200 million years ago. Several species shared by Asia and N. A. may have spread more recently via the Bering Land Bridge. Southern hemisphere species were well separated and formed several superclades of their own. (*Insights into the phylogeny of Northern Hemisphere Armillaria: Neighbor-net and Bayesian analyses of translation elongation factor 1-a gene sequences, NB Klopfenstein et al, Mycologia, Vol 108, No. 6, p. 1049-68.*)

(Compiled by editor from above cited sources.)



**17th Annual Gary Lincoff Mushroom Foray  
September 16, 2017 | North Park, Pennsylvania**

The Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club would like to announce the 16th Annual Gary Lincoff Mushroom Foray. This one-day event starts with a walk on Friday in Cook State Forest, an 8,500 acre old-growth forest near Clarion. On Saturday activities in North Park, Pearce Mill Rd. McCandless Township includes walks, presentations, auction, sales, and a mushroom feast. Guest mycologists are Gary Lincoff and Robert Chang, truffle cultivator. This event does not include lodging, for which you must make your own arrangements

Details and prices are posted on the club website: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>  
For more information, contact the Foray Chair, Barbara DeRiso: 412-252-2594  
[LincoffForay@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:LincoffForay@wpamushroomclub.org)

<p align="center"><b>2017 NEMF 41st Annual Samuel Ristich Foray July 27-30, Bondville, Vt.</b></p> <p>Sited at the Stratton Mt Resort, accommodations are in double occupancy hotel style rooms with a/c, at a cost of \$420. (Single, \$610.) More economical options (non a/c, triple occupancy, etc.) are available on the NEMF website. Faculty is headed by Gary Lincoff with such notables as Rick Kerrigan, Tim Baroni, Roy Halling, Henry Beker and Rod Tulloss, among others. Although not explicitly mentioned, the usual buses to foray sites will not be provided.</p> <p>For more info or to register access: <a href="http://nemf.org/index.html">http://nemf.org/index.html</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>2017 NAMA ANNUAL FORAY Sept. 7—10 Cable, Wisconsin</b></p> <p>Registration should now be open at the NAMA website for this foray, which will be sited at the Lakewood Resort, with Dr. Patrick Leacock as Chief Mycologist and a faculty including Nicholas Money, Michael Beug, Greg Mueller, as well as Gary Lincoff and Tom Volk, among others. Accomodations are in hotel style rooms with en suite bath, heat and a/c. The price in double occupancy is \$379 for the entire 3 night, 9 meals; commuter (lodging elsewhere, 9 meals) \$229. The surrounding area is mostly National Forest, with areas of old growth White Pine. Check it out at: <a href="http://namyco.org">namyco.org</a></p>
<p align="center"><b>2017 Annual Wildacres Regional Foray Sept 28--Oct 1, Wildacres, N. Carolina</b></p> <p>Held at Wildacres Retreat, a conference center on 1600 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the foray is limited to 40 NAMA members. Priced at \$250 per person, double occupancy (no single rooms) for food and (3 nights) lodging.</p> <p>Chief Mycologist is Brandon Matheny, Univ. of Tenn.; other faculty to be announced. .</p> <p>The relaxed, convivial ambiance of Wildacres is unsurpassed. Early registration is advised. An application form may be downloaded by accessing <a href="http://namyco.org/events.php">http://namyco.org/events.php</a> under the Wildacres Regional Foray.</p> <p>For more information and to register, contact Glenda O'Neal by email <a href="mailto:glendakoneal@yahoo.com">glendakoneal@yahoo.com</a> or by phone at 423-863-2742.</p>	<p align="center"><b>COMA's Clark Rogerson Foray Sept 22-25</b></p> <p>This annual event will this year be held at the completely refurbished Camp Hemlocks in Hebron , Ct. where Gary Lincoff usually heads the mycological staff assisted by Bill Yule, Dianna Smith, and others. Housing is in hotel style rooms, air conditioned and with en-suite bathroom. All meals included. Last year's cost was \$325 per adult for the entire 4 days; children 3-12 years old \$245. Day visitors \$65-\$75 adults, \$35 children.</p> <p>This year's rates and registration details will shortly be available on the Connecticut-Westchester Mycological Association website by accessing <a href="http://comafungi.org/special-events/">comafungi.org/special-events/</a> and clicking on "Clark Rogerson Foray".</p>

**UPDATE: Pine Beetles movement across Long Island has been slowed, reports the NYS DEC Forest Health section. The total number of infested trees downed has increased to 10,000 and replacements have been planted. Grants to municipalities and other bodies for removal and replanting, from \$25,000 to \$75,000, will be awarded.**

**EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE MYCOLOGY WORKSHOPS STEUBEN, MAINE**

**July 2-8 Lichens & Lichen Ecology David Richardson & Mark Seaward \$535**

Suitable for beginners, this seminar emphasizes both fieldwork and laboratory studies, focusing on identification of specimens using books, keys and chemical tests. The emphasis will be on macrolichens although crustose lichens will be included. Taught by two eminent and widely published professors of biology..

**July 16-22 Boletes & Other Fungi of New England \$585 Alan & Arlene Bessette**

A seminar consisting of lectures on identification, taxonomy, ecology, and edibility, suitable for the beginner as well as particular individual pursuits; forays; use of field keys and microscopy; and photographic techniques for documentation. Taught by the renowned prolific power couple of N.A. mycology.

**July 30-Aug 5 Mushroom Identification for New Mycophiles: Foraging for Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms- \$535 Greg A. Marley and Michaeline Mulvey-** A field identification course of the macrofungi focusing on the skills needed to identify common mushrooms using field characteristics, keys and guides while also addressing preparation of edible fungi for the table.

**Aug 6-12 Independent Studies: Interesting and Challenging Saxicolous Lichens of N.A. Alan Fryday** A seminar addressing identification of the notoriously difficult rock-dwelling crustose lichens through microscopic examination. Taught by the curator of MSU herbarium, one of the largest collections of lichens in N.A. and a leading researcher in the field who has described over 70 new species.

(Other Natural History seminars range from Birding, Mosses, Medicinal Plants, Moths & Butterflies, Creative Nature Writing etc. Unless otherwise noted rates are \$475 for the seminar; \$195 for accommodations (double); and \$265 for the meal plan. Access <http://www.eaglehill.us/> for more detailed information and to apply online.)

**Mushroom Festival in Oaxaca Mexico**

**July 12-18**

Crooked Trails, a non-profit travel organization, supportive of local communities, has scheduled a tour that is a mash-up of mycology, natural history and culture. Taking place in the heavily pine forested Sierra Norte, at an altitude of 10,000 feet centered on the local Feria Regional de Hongos Silvestres (Wild Mushroom Festival), an annual event. After a foray with local villagers, there are seminars on mycology and mushroom cookery sessions. Following this, there is participation in the local *Guelaguetza* indigenous celebration and parade. This culminates in the Mezcal festival, a tasting of the local liquor.

This 7 day, 6 night tour is priced at \$1,360 from Oaxaca City, with most meals included. For further details, or to make an inquiry access <http://www.crookedtrails.org/itinerary/mexico-wild-mushroom-festival-oaxaca/>

**2017 NAMA Regional Foray - Pinetop, AZ**

**Aug 10-13**

This NAMA and Arizona Mushroom Society event will be held at Camp Tatiyee in Pinetop-Lakeside in the White Mountains adjoining National Forest and State Lands, at elevations of 4,000 to 11,000 feet. Scott Bates of Purdue University, is the Chief Mycologist. The mycoflora here is unique, more like the fungi of Mexico and Eastern N.A. Facilities are large cabins with bunk beds, limited to 75 attendees. Fees still to be determined but registration should be open by April. Access: <https://www.arizonamushroomsociety.org/event-2469863>

**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!**

JACKIE AVIGNON

MICHAEL GANZ

HELEN GAO

JEFF GREENBERGER

DONALD HECHT

DEBORAH BROOME & JOHN KENNEDY

MICHAEL LAPASTOSA

ERICA LAPSIA

FRANK MANCINI

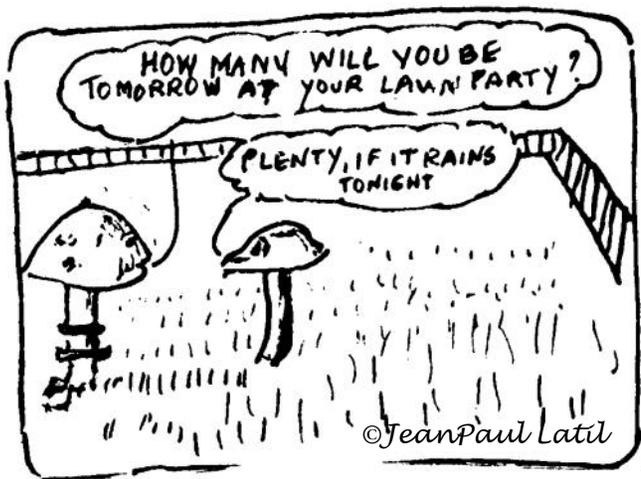
KRYSTYNA & PAUL MARKOWSKI

JC MAS

BILL OTERSON

ALEC SALVADORI

DANIELLA STRAT



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*What would the world be, once bereft  
of wet and of wildness? Let them be left,  
O let them be left, wildness and wet;  
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.*

*Inversnaid                      Gerard Manley Hopkins*



LONG ISLAND MYCOLOGICAL CLUB  
11 RAMBLEWOOD RD.  
RIDGE, NY 11961