

40th Anniversary  
L.I. SPOREPRINT  
1973-2013

Available in  
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on  
our  
website

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1, SPRING, 2013

**FINDINGS AFIELD**



*Parasola schroeteri*

This is the last of the three (formerly) *Coprinus* species that were growing unbidden on our deck in flowerpots last summer, and perhaps the most problematic in terms of identification. Now along with most of its brethren, nestled among the *Psathyrellaceae*, it is one of the group with no veil remnants, in the genus *Parasola*, and grouped in Kee Uljé's online *Coprinus* key, which I depended upon, in subsection *Glabri*, meaning bald. Because of multiple fruitings within a two week period, I had the chance to observe that it could differ to the naked eye on each round, while microscopically it remained stable. It so closely resembles *Parasola plicatilis* macroscopically, that it is impossible to distinguish them. In fact, I would have dismissed them as that, but having them consistently flaunted before me, I was seduced into taking a closer look.

(Continued on page 3)

**THE SEASON'S BOUNTY: 2012**

If the mycological year 2012 was rendered as a symphony, it would start on a very subdued note, continue as a diminuendo, and reach its midpoint as a crescendo, flowing to a *sostenuto* and then to several false endings before irrevocably departing. In plain language, the early morel season was a non-starter, little transpired thereafter during the Spring and early Summer, with *Chanterelles* then registering a boom year, the usual Autumn species making a decent showing, and Oysters continuing to surface well into the New Year.



*Cantharellus cibarius* -Chanterelles

While 2011 was an extraordinarily good year for Morels, with record rains producing good amounts (for L.I.) of Black Morels (previously *Morchella elata*, now correctly called *M. angusticeps* Peck) and even heralding the uncommon appearance here of Yellow Morels (now *M. esculentoides*) in some numbers, that was not repeated in 2012. Spring rainfall was scanty, with zero harvests of Morels. Our other spring favorite, *Pleurotus populinus*, the Spring Oyster, continues to display diminished fruiting in our favorite hunting ground, and last year was no exception, the prodigious harvests of yesteryear no longer in evidence. However, some spots further east have shown promise, and if that continues, we may have a new Spring Oyster site in the future. If you know of any extensive poplar stands, check them out in mid-May and let us know.

As usual, rainfall throughout the region varied, with the

(Continued on page 6)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is here at last. As usual, now I start going through my mushroom books to reacquaint myself with names and likenesses of the fungi I have forgotten during the winter months. I seem to remember less and less but maybe it's just that we find more each year.

March 3rd was our first Board meeting of this year. The by-laws now call for the office of vice-president who would step in if needed. Jacques volunteered to stand in until an election can take place. In addition, Bruce has agreed to be junior editor of the Sporeprint and Bob Cresko will be in charge of e-mail notifications if need be. I thank all who attended....what would the club be without volunteers like you. Speaking of which, we are soliciting for another board member.

As some of you already know, this is the 40th anniversary of our club. Many changes have

come about since 1973. We have more members, a web site, an expanded newsletter available in color on our site, and email notification of foray changes. There are many more venues for members, such as NEMF and NAMA chosen sites. Web tools are there for the asking, such as the wonderful Index Fungorum, where you can look up any mushroom name and ascertain if it is still in use or what the valid name is. We are fortunate to have all these resources- now all we need is new areas to foray and lots of mushrooms!

Prepare for ticks now by spraying your clothing. This is important- tick-borne disease can be serious.

In closing, I'd like to see more of you attending our activities and also volunteering to help out in some way.

See you soon along the trails .

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Snow is sometimes referred to as "poor farmers' fertilizer" and what fertilizes the roots of plants necessarily fertilizes their associated fungal mycorrhizas. If so, can we expect an increased production of mushrooms this year because of this winter's prodigious snow cover? Another rule of thumb is that one poor season is usually not followed by another. If both of these predictions are on track, we should be treated to a memorable Morel harvest, hopefully equal at least to that of 2011, when yellow or "blond" Morels made an unusual showing here. But I'm not taking any bets....

Once again, as editor, I am soliciting contri-

butions for this publication, be they articles on any fungal topic, personal experiences or adventures in hunting mushrooms (good or bad), recipes, cartoons, poems, or whatever. We need a variety of voices to be heard. The best submission will receive a free year of membership.

The Spring issue is your travel guide to myco-forays near and far, with more available now than ever. If you have never attended one, I urge you to do so- you won't regret it. As the old saw about whiskey goes: "some are better than others, but there are no bad ones."



**MATERIAL FOR THE SUMMER, 2013 EDITION SHOULD REACH THE EDITOR BY  
MAY 31**

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

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*(All unsigned articles authored by editor.)*

### LONG ISLAND MYCOLOGICAL CLUB

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**Board Members:** Bob Cresko, Tony Mish, Roger Eklund.

NEW LONG ISLAND SPECIES 2012

**Boletus rubripes\***  
**Boletopsis subsquamosa**  
**Clitocybe truncicola**  
**Coprinellus flocculosus**  
**Coprinus cortinatus**  
**Cortinarius distans**  
**Cortinarius rubrocinereus**  
**Fomitopsis spraguei**  
**Geastrum sessile**  
**Geastrum triplex**  
**Gerronema stromboides\* \***  
**Gymnopilus liquirteae**  
**Hygrocybe lacmus**  
**Hygrophorus pudorinus**  
**Lactarius subvellereus v subdistans**  
**Lycoperdon pusillum**  
**Macrotyphula juncea**

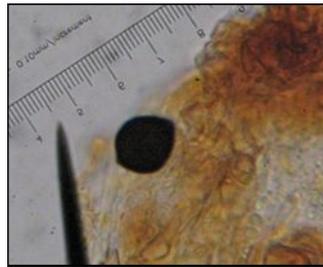
**Meiorganum curtisii\***  
**Melanoleuca verrucipes**  
**Oligoporus floriformis**  
**Parasola schroeteri**  
**Physarum viride (Slime Mold)**  
**Pluteus nanus**  
**Ramaria botrytoides**  
**Russula ballouii**  
**Russula farinipes**  
**Russula viridioculata**  
**Sarcodon fuligineo-violaceum**  
**Sarcodon underwoodii**  
**Scleroderma verrucosum**  
**Stereum hirsutum**  
**Suillus neoalbidipes**  
**Tomentella cinarescens**  
**Tricholoma vaccinum**

(\* Added based on Ernst Both's ID data in Dom Laudato's book. See page 4)  
 (\* \* I.D.'d on site by Aaron Norarevian.)

**FINDINGS AFIELD**

(Cont'd from page 1)

Not that there are glaring differences microscopically, these being mostly of degree rather than kind. But in the absence of DNA evidence we must fall back on these differences to establish an identification. The first hint that it might be other than *P. plicatilis* was the size and shape of the spore.

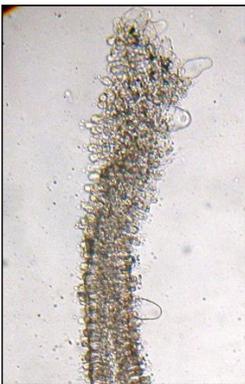


*P. schroeteri* spore

cystidea are larger and more varied in shape in *P. plicatilis* than in *P. schroeteri*, and ours adhered to this general pattern, and were in fact somewhat smaller than reported. If shape is emphasized, our cystidea were mostly utriform and subcylindrical, with a scattering of lageniform types, reflective of the description and illustrations of Ulje. (See photo below, left.)

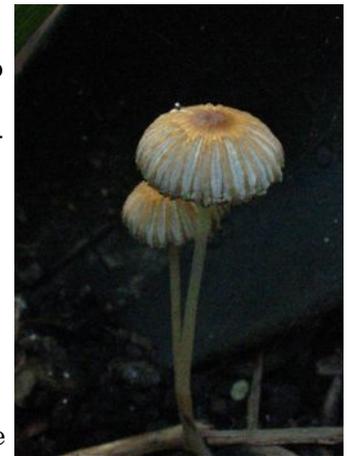
*Parasola schroeteri* is a species described from Europe, and a search of the Mycoportal site, which enables a species search for archived specimens, reveals a handful of them in the United States and Canada, (none more recent than 1948) as *Coprinus schroeteri*. There is also a recent well-documented claim on the Mushroom Observer website, from California. So its presence in North America is not entirely unprecedented, but rare, no doubt owing to its diminutive stature, short life, and close resemblance to its congeners.

It is considered widespread but rare in Europe and has now been added to our LI checklist.



Gill Xsection & cystidea

Both species have spores greater than 9 μm long, but in the latter are described as angularly ovoid, about 10-14 X 7-10, while those of *P. schroeteri* are rounded triangular, 10-16 X 9-13. The Q value, or ratio of length to width, averages 1.10-1.20 in *P. schroeteri*, and 1.15-1.55 in *P. plicatilis*. Our specimen's spores (see photo of typical spore above) were mostly 11-15 (16) X 9-13 with a Q value of about 1.2, so entirely within the range for *P. schroeteri*. Both species have cheilocystidea and pleurocystidea, not dramatically differing, but distinguished by small size and shape differences. In general, both types of



*P. schroeteri* in another guise

## Book Review Corner

**“Mushrooming on Long Island-Selected Memoirs of an Obsessed Mycophile”**

by Dom Laudato, 2012, Flint Mine Press softcover, 141 pp

Surprise! It is very fitting and timely that close upon the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Long Island Mycological Club Dom Laudato (past President of LIMC) has written a memoir about his love of mushrooms and his journeys and adventures in this realm. Without giving away too much of his story, I'll just give you an overview of the manuscript.

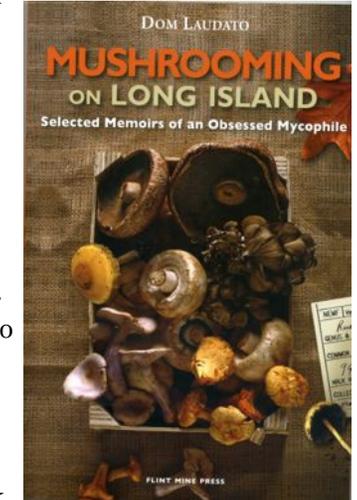
Firstly, it must be said that this work does not intend to be a field guide in the usual sense, although one of its useful features is a seasonal list of commonly found species. Neither is it a complete history of the LIMC, but some historical information is presented. It is a personal memoir, an account of Dom's fascination with fungi, and how he advanced from novice to the presidency of LIMC. Commencing with his early days it rapidly transitions to interest in fungi and then delves into the do's and don'ts of collecting, identifying and consuming mushrooms, complete with recipes. His sketches are scattered throughout to better illustrate certain points, and a series of 24 color photographs of mushrooms are found midpoint. (Those who know him will recognize his characteristic conversational voice.)

Travel along with Dom's adventures with mushroom poisoning and his work with the Poison Control Center, his association and correspondence with mycologists and knowledgeable people in the field, along with some early experiences. Learning the proper way to take notes in the field is another very important lesson on how to ID one's finds and perhaps unearthing a species new to the area. As previously mentioned, the very useful seasonal, month by month listing of mushrooms is a unique and quite valuable tool in the field.

One caveat: species names used are sometimes out of date or synonyms not in common use, which can be confusing to beginners. For example, *Tricholomopsis platyphylla*, has not been in general use for over a decade, and the NA species is now correctly called *Megacollybia rodmanii*, although most NA guidebooks retain it as *Megacollybia platyphylla*, a name that can properly refer only to the European species. Likewise, *Langermania* (sic) *gigantea* is a European usage, and is correctly called *Calvatia gigantea* (*Giant puffball*). This is a minor point and does not detract from the book's many virtues.

For all members of LIMC who wish to get a sense of mushrooming's early years on Long Island with our club, and to share the experiences of a man who was (and is) as deeply immersed and committed to our mutual avocation as it is possible to be, Dom's book is highly recommended. (Having read other mushroom memoirs, I can say that this one is by far the most interesting and complete.) He has done a great job and I am so happy for him. GO DOM!

“Mushrooming on Long Island” is available for \$15.99 plus on Amazon. Through Dom's publisher the price would be about \$12 if we buy in bulk, i.e., at least 10 copies. To order, please call or email me if you are interested in getting a copy.)



*Peggy Horman*

### **MUSHROOMING— EXOTIC MUSHROOM FORAYS ABROAD**

#### ***TIBET— CORDYCEPS AND MOREL EXPEDITION MAY 24-JUNE 6***

An exotic 2 week adventure to the Tibetan Plateau to forage for local species alongside native pickers, as well as sampling traditional meals and shopping at herbal markets. Limited to 14 participants at a land cost of \$3,600.

#### ***TIBET-SUMMER FUNGAL & FLORAL FORAY AUGUST 12—25***

Commencing in Chengdu and continuing to Lhasa (11,000 ft altitude!) this expedition will focus on summer species such as Matsutake and King Boletes as well as local botanizing. Limited to 12-16 participants at a land cost of \$3,250.

For further information and registration access: <http://mushrooming.com/>

TREASURER'S ANNUAL SUMMARY FOR 2012

<u>Balance from 2011</u>			\$3169.59
Membership Dues	1050.00		
Interest/Misc.	.63		
Sub-Total		1050.63	\$4220.22
<u>Disbursements</u>			
NEMF Dues (pd Dec.'12)	0		
Newsletter expenses (includes printing, mailing, supplies, & misc. notices)	669.32		
Treasurer's expenses (postage, supplies, picnic, board meeting, Mushroom Day, misc.)	290.77		
Luncheon deposit loss	200.00		
Sub-Total		-1160.09	
<u>Balance as of Dec. 31, 2012</u>			\$3060.13

*Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Horman,  
Treasurer*

EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE MYCOLOGY WORKSHOPS STEUBEN, MAINE

**July 28-Aug. 3: Mushroom Identification for New Mycophiles: Foraging for Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms with 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.

**Sept. 8-14: Boletes of North America: A Field Seminar and Workshop with Alan E. Bessette and Arleen R. Bessette**– The renowned authors of many field guides, including the invaluable “Boletes of NA” will combine forays and field studies with follow-up work in the lab to identify Boletes and to explore their culinary aspects as well.

Rates are \$510 for the seminar; \$195 for accommodations (double); and \$269 for the meal plan. Access <http://www.eaglehill.us/> for more detailed information and to apply online.

### **16th Annual Wildacres Regional Foray September 12-15, Wildacres, N. Carolina**

Held at Wildacres Retreat, a conference center on 1600 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the foray is limited to 40 NAMA members at \$230 per person, double occupancy; no single rooms.

This year's faculty has not been finalized, but previous years featured Coleman McCleneghan, Brandon Matheny, Andy Methven, and other stars.

The ambiance of Wildacres is unsurpassed. Early registration is advised. For more information and to register, contact Glenda O'Neal by email [glen-dakoneal@yahoo.com](mailto:glen-dakoneal@yahoo.com) or by phone at 423-246-1882. An application form may be found in the Mar/April 2013 edition of the Mycophile. Or access [http://www.namyco.org/events/wildacres\\_foray.html](http://www.namyco.org/events/wildacres_foray.html)

### **“WORLD OF MUSHROOMS” Star Island, New Hampshire June 22-29**

This natural history conference will feature Dr. Rick Van de Poll in a series of lectures focusing on the do's and don'ts of collecting, identifying and preparing mushrooms. He has recorded over 1300 species in New Hampshire and co-founded the Monadnock Mushroom Club

The rates of \$850 for a double and \$1080 for a single covers room, meals and ferry transportation; the program fee is an additional \$150 pp.

For further information and to register online access:

<http://starisland.org/conferences/about/>

New York City area reporting a total of 38.5 inches, 11.5" below normal (the 28<sup>th</sup> driest year since 1869), while Brookhaven National Laboratory reported normal rainfall of 51", with almost 16" of that falling in June and July. As a result, Chanterelles were super-abundant in eastern Long Island, even popping up in backyards and on wooded roadsides, resulting in many phone inquiries from curious homeowners. The down side of this was a rash of dog poisonings, some fatal, because *Amanita phalloides* and *Amanita bisporigera* also made their appearance in similar habitat.

Bolete harvests were lackluster, although *Leccinum aurantiacum* was an exception, continuing into late Fall. Similarly, Black Trumpets were more numerous later in the season. Other Autumn standbys such as Hen-of-the-Woods, Gypsies, and the pine barren Tricholomas did not disappoint us. After a soaking 7 inches of rain in December, Oysters continued to be harvested by intrepid collectors into January.

We added 34 new species to our list, an average number for the year, making a total of about 915.



*Gerronema strombodes*



*Melanoleuca verrucipes*



*Hygrocybe lacmus*



*Ramaria botrytoides*



*Squamanita umbonata* (2nd LI record!)



*Macrotyphula juncea*



*Boletopsis subsquamosa*



*Tricholoma vaccinum*



*Cortinarius distans*



■ **MUSHROOMS: EARLY AND LATE:** With the near universal acceptance of the fact of climate change have come a raft of studies of the changing fruiting patterns of macro-fungi. Several rely cleverly on herbarium collections, whose dates necessarily reflect the presence of fruiting bodies. The first<sup>1</sup> used 34,500 records in Norway (1940-2006) and concluded that there was a delay in fruiting since 1980 of 12.9 days, in autumnal fruiting species, thought to be due to increasing temperatures. A recent, more extensive study<sup>2</sup> led by the same primary author analyzed 746,297 dated records of autumnal fruitbodies from Austria, Norway, Switzerland and the UK revealed a widening of the annual fruiting season in all countries from 1970-2007. Although there was wide species variation, most moved toward a later ending of their fruiting period, with mycorrhizal fungi showing a more compressed season than saprotrophs, thought to be attributable to their dependence upon the host plant.

Spring fruiting fungi were also studied<sup>3</sup> by this Norwegian research group, covering both that country and the UK from 1960-2007, but limited to 6000 records. Spring fruiting was found to have advanced by an average of 18 days over the study period. Warmer winter temperatures also correlated well with early fruiting, likely due to earlier onset of Spring. Higher summer temperatures the previous year also had a demonstrable effect.

<sup>1</sup> *Mushroom fruiting and climate change.* Kausserud H, et al *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2008 Mar 11;105(10):3811-4.  
<sup>2</sup> *Warming-induced shift in European mushroom fruiting phenology.* Kausserud H, et al *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2012 Sep 4;109(36):14488-93.  
<sup>3</sup> *Climate change and spring-fruiting fungi,* Kausserud H, et al, *Proc Biol Sci.* 2010 Apr 22;277(1685):1169-77.



**2013 NAMA ANNUAL FORAY—SHEPHERD OF THE OZARKS, ARKANSAS OCT. 24-27**

Hosted by the Arkansas Mycological Society, this foray will be held at the this 460 acre Christian Conference/Retreat Center, located in the heart of the Ozarks, about 115 miles north of Little Rock. Collecting areas will include spots in the Ozark National Forest and the Buffalo National River area. Transportation by van will be provided from the airport at a cost of \$25 round trip.

The chief mycologist will be Dr. Clark Overbo, assisted by Alan & Arleen Bessette, Any Methven, Michael Kuo, and others.

Costs will be \$315-\$325 pp in a private room (limited ot 58) and \$275- \$290 pp in bunk areas (50 spots).

For those residing off-site, the meals only fee is \$150- \$165 pp.

Further information and registration will be mad available in the May-June issue of the *Mycophile*. (NAMA membership is required to attend this foray)

<p><b>COMA's 34<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Clark Rogerson Foray</b>  <b>Thursday- Sunday, September 13-16</b></p> <p>The Connecticut- Westchester annual foray will be held at Camp Hemlocks, Hebron, CT where such notables as Gary Lincoff, Dr, Roz Lowen, John Plischke III, etc, will hold sway.</p> <p>The fee for the entire 4 days is \$280 pp, and for 3 days \$210, which includes lodging, meals, and all activities. Day visitors pay \$80 for dinner and activities. Priority for double occupancy units given to couples.</p> <p>Further information and a downloadable reservation form is available by accessing:  <a href="http://www.comafungi.org/">http://www.comafungi.org/</a> and clicking on "The Rogerson Foray" and then opening the page as a</p>	<p><b>2013 NEMF 37<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Annual Samuel Ristich Foray</b>  <b>Rimouski, Québec, Canada</b>  <b>August 7 - 10, 2013</b></p> <p>Hosted by the Cercle des Mycologues de Montreal at the campus of the University of Quebec at Rimouski, this is a bilingual program which features guest mycologists from Europe as well as North America. In addition to fungi, there will be presentations on Lichens, Bryophytes, and Slime Molds.</p> <p>Rates for accommodations at the University (apt. of 4 single rooms) are \$300 pp for the regular foray and \$375 for "Foray Plus" which begins a day early, Aug. 6.</p> <p>Rimouski is about 700 miles from NYC, or almost 200 miles from Quebec City., located on the south bank of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Off-site attendees (local hotels are an option) pay \$190, or can have NEMF arrange a nearby hotel for \$375.</p> <p>For additional details and registration, access:  <a href="http://mycomontreal.qc.ca/actualit.htm">http://mycomontreal.qc.ca/actualit.htm</a></p>
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*"... there is, after all, one true tree of life, the unique pattern of evolutionary branchings that actually happened. It exists. It is in principle knowable. We don't know it all yet. By 2050 we should - or if we do not, we shall have been defeated only at the terminal twigs, by the sheer number of species."*

*Richard Dawkins (2003) A devil's chaplain*



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