

The Mycorizon

Newsletter of the New Mexico Mycological Society

June 2003

Volume 1—Number 6

Presidents Message

As I told everyone when I accepted the nomination for President, August and September were largely committed, and I would not be available to the society.

Our Vice President, Ann Floyd will inherit my duties, as well as keeping her own. As such, I will defer the rest of the column to her. *John Rahart*

Thanks John! Actually taking on John's duties for July is no big deal since Marjorie Lutz has graciously agreed to host the Potluck again—see details in the July Program box on page 2.

Sincere thanks to Sharon Chong and Pat Brannen for their encouragement and leads. So far, John Corbin and Ted Stampfer have been enlisted (we could use more) as scouts and depending on their observations some field trips and a scaled down annual foray will be organized in July and/ or August.

For the September meeting a "Show and Tell" program is planned. This is intended for members to share their season's success, stories or tribulations.

Ann Floyd

NMMS ROOTS by Ann Floyd

Ever wonder how the New Mexico Mycological Society got started? Well, let me tell the tale that I dug up!

In 1982 a California transplant by the name of Rich Therrien, who happened to be a mushroom aficionado, started looking for like minds in Albuquerque. He found some, but no club or organization of any kind.

In 1983 Rich held a series of classes on mushroom identification that included a few field trips, at Freedom University. As the tale goes, nine or ten students showed up including Vern and Priscilla Jolly, Jonathan Baldwin, Chris McAdams and Peg Hooten.

In 1984 Rich ran an ad hoping to get some people interested in forming a club – approximately twenty responded, including the aforementioned and Ellen Reed. The first meetings were held in an old warehouse on 4th Street. The group soon graduated to better digs, Vern Jolly made his construction company's boardroom available. While it is not clear exactly when Pat Brannen joined the group, sources remember her coming back from that year's NAMA foray with the cry of: "We got to get organized – Mycologists are coming!" So Rich wrote bylaws based on Colorado and California models, was elected first president, other officers and board members were installed andVoila – NMMS was official!

In 1999 Rich Therrien, after having served the club in various capacities over the course of time, moved to Payson, AZ. His parting gift, the locations of his favorite Morel hunting grounds. To date Ellen, Pat and Peg are still members and have volunteered much time and talent to the organization over the years. To list the many contributions of these founding members is impossible, so I'll just mention that Rich aka Morel Maven does a great "There are no Morels in New Mexico!" lament, Ellen is a wonderful Christmas party hostess; Pat is known as the mycologist connection and that somewhere along the way Peg designed the clubs logo.

Author's note:

If this account of the early years prompts anyone's recall and brings to mind more detail, corrections or amusing anecdotes – please contact me (505) 389-3890 or send e-mail to steinpilz98@yahoo.com

**MARK KALIN's 6/3/03
Meeting Minutes (abbrev)**

President John Rahart called meeting to order.

Attendees: 9

Due to some technical difficulties and small number of attendees, the general business meeting was dispensed with quickly and the slide show started.

John narrated "The Best Edibles and Poisonous Look-alikes in Gilled Mushrooms" by Michael Beug.

Discussion centered on:

Amanita

Limacella

Lepiota

Hygrophorus

Reminder: There will be no general meeting in July; there will be a Potluck in Santa Fe instead.

Meeting adjourned at 21:45.

*Respectfully abbreviated by
Ann Floyd*

NMMS SHOPPING

Available at the next meeting at listed price to non-members and at **10% discount to members** :

David Arora's

All that the rain promises....

\$18.00

Vera Stucky Evenson's

Mushrooms of Colorado and the Southern Rocky Mountains

\$25.00

Toadstool Interactive CD

The Secret Lives of Mushrooms

\$18.00

New item:

Taylor Lockwood's DVD

Member price \$15.00

Non-member price \$17.00



Bing's Review

Partners for Life

Reviewed and summarized by Bing LeRoy.

Author: Dwight G. Smith, professor and chairperson of the biology department of Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven. Published in the April 2003 issue of the *The World & I*, a publication of *The Washington Times* Corporation. Page 136-145.

Lichens are a composite of two or three different organisms from the separate kingdoms of fungi, alga and sometimes bacterium. Lichens are a unique example of symbiosis – living together, performing separate but mutually beneficial functions. Unlike fungus, lichens manufacture their own food.

Surviving a variety of habitats, some are found in the most inhospitable locations, such as near the poles, or in the Negev Desert, where temperatures swing from 50 degrees F to 176 degrees F. Their varied coloration helps them endure extremes of temperature and adjust to lighting conditions, and their unique forms reflect their adaptation to habitat, such as deserts, the poles, and rain forests.

Traditionally, lichens have been classified as Kingdom Fungi, which is the more readily identifiable component. Other components are alga (Kingdom Protista) and sometimes include a bacterium (Kingdom Monera).

Scientists believe lichens first appeared about 400 million years ago when plants first began colonization in the terrestrial landscape. Today, there are four main groups, based on the structures of the main body (thallus) of each: leprose, crustose, foliose and fruticose.

The hardy crustose lichens grow on rocks in the arctic tundra regions, wearing down rock to produce soil. Leprose lichens are the most drought resistant and are the most common type found in dry desert and alpine regions. Leafier lichens growing in the areas of frequent rainfall are the foliose species, some occurring in the freshwater habitats of North America. Fruticose lichens resemble mosses or miniature shrubs, predominantly found in rain and cloud forests and along fog shrouded seacoasts.

Look for the rest of the story in the August issue of the The Mycorizon

JULY PROGRAM—POTLUCK IN SANTA FE

Friday, July 18th at 6:00pm

Hosted by Marjorie Lutz

Address: 16 Brilliant Sky Dr. ,Santa Fe, Phone (505) 474-9400

Directions:

From the south, take I-25 north, exit at Cerrillos Road, take right fork south (Cerrillos Road is Rte 14). Very quickly, turn left on the second road: Rancho Viejo Blvd. The entrance is divided & Turquoise Trail Industrial Park is on the corner. Follow the Blvd, curving up the hill to stop sign. Go straight through first stop sign. At second stop sign, take Left fork. Turn Left at 2nd street on left: Brilliant Sky Drive. Go around the curve, number 16 is right after the little park on the right. (it's the first house on the street with a number).

**August 23 – 24, 2003
Creede Mushroom Foray**

Recent inquiries to the Creede Chamber of Commerce about their foray, generated this response:

The rain this month (June) suggests that we should have mushrooms this summer. Larry Renshaw will be our guide. We usually have a slide show Friday evening with a donation of \$2 per person to cover the cost of the facility.

Registration fees for one day for adults are \$25, \$40 for both days. Children 14 and under who are accompanied by an adult participant may register for \$15 for one day or \$25 for two days.

The fee covers the facility, Larry's expenses which include food items used to prepare dishes with some of the collected mushrooms.

When questioned about lodging the Chamber representative deferred to the Creede website:

<http://www.creede.com>

Creede is located in the San Juan Mountains of SW Colorado, among some of the most pristine and remote wilderness areas in the state.

The headwaters of the Rio Grande and San Juan Rivers rise just miles west of Creede in the Weminuche Wilderness.

The Upper Rio Grande Valley is surrounded by mountains with peaks of 12,000-14,000 feet and extends from Spring Creek Pass in the North to Wagon Wheel Gap in the South.

Don't miss a meeting—CATCH A RIDE!

In Albuquerque call:

Sharon Chong at 823-2704 or

Mark Kalin at 883-1639 or 284-4341

Given a bit of notice, these generous folks will be glad to give NMMS members rides to and/or from meetings.

INTERESTED IN JOINING NMMS?

Yearly dues are \$20 (optional NAMA dues are \$32)
Mail your check to: NMMS Treasurer, 6336 Mendius, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109-4126

Meetings: 1st Tuesday every month, except March & July
7:30pm at the NM Museum of Natural History
1801 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104-1375

ACROSS THE BIG POND

The German "Red List" of endangered fungi, referred to in last month issue, has a counterpart in Switzerland. Web address:

<http://www.pilze.ch/Roteliste/Roteliste2.html>

This list contains 229 endangered fungi and is categorized by:

E = endangered across Europe

1 = top ten endangered

2 = all others

S = Consistent appearance on the 8 European Red Lists.

A = Occurrence in alpine range

1 = boreal or typical alpine species

2 = arctic-alpine species

3 = found under *Alnus verides* (Scrub Birch)

4 = found under *Pinus cembra* (Alpine Pine)

5 = found under Larches

6 = unique to Switzerland

B = Biotop

TR = Dry meadow

HtR = Half dry meadow

AW = Forest interspersed with wetlands

FW = Wet meadow

HM = High moor

EW = extensively used grazing land

R = Rarity

F = Number of reports in the "Databank Makromyseten Schweiz"

P = Points assigned

**THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER
WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS!**

Contact the editor at (505)-839-3890 or send e-mail to:
steinpilz98@yahoo.com

