

# The Mycorizon

Newsletter of the New Mexico Mycological Society

October 2004

Volume 2— Number 21

## Vice President's Message

How time flies - here we are voting for club officers again!

David Wallis is looking for nominees; hopefully he will not have to work too hard at this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the support and guidance during my tenure as Vice President and editor.

Unfortunately health reasons do not allow me to continue in any capacity other than the production of the newsletter.

Don't miss the November meeting - new officers will be elected!

*Ann*

## **HOLIDAY POTLUCK**

Mark your calendar!  
This traditional event  
will be held at:

**John & Mary Lee Sparks'**

**Saturday, December 4**

**At 6:00 PM**

2438 Campbell Road NW  
Albuquerque, NM

## **Fungi Expert here during month of August Sustainable Communities/ZERI-NM forestry project**

*By Lynda Taylor, Co-Director*

Ivanka Milenkovic, PhD in Mycology from Serbia, visited New Mexico this past August to work on a forestry project with Sustainable Communities/ZERI-NM (SCZ).

SCZ's forestry project is funded by a grant from the US Forest Service, CFRP Program, which seeks to demonstrate creating value added products from small diameter thinned out trees, including the creation of a natural wood charcoal, using the fumes to preserve untreated wood naturally, and using native fungi to grow mushrooms, test the spent substrate for use as an animal feed for ruminants and perform forest restoration of eroded areas. See [www.scizerinm.org](http://www.scizerinm.org). NMMS member Lynda Taylor, spoke to NMMS last December about the project. Since Dr. Milenkovic's visit, SCZ has established a long term native fungi culture bank under the direction of biologists Will and Janette Fischer. This bank has become of interest to NM State University as a possible program there.

In her country of Serbia, Dr. Milenkovic has used the native pleurotus oyster mushroom to inoculate waste wheat straw to produce oyster mushrooms for market as well as using the spent substrate for up to 20% of the feed for cattle and dairy cows. (See articles on our website). Here in New Mexico, Dr. Milenkovic is working with SCZ using native mushrooms to inoculate branches of thinned small diameter trees (ponderosa, pinon, juniper) and invasive species (salt cedar, Russian olive) and other tree "wastes" (pecan thinnings). The native mushrooms, collected during several hunts in the Picuris, Penasco and Mora areas, include edibles and decomposers as well as mycorrhizae to see how well they grow on the thinnings to produce mushrooms, make humus, test the substrate as potential feed for wildlife or domestic animals, as well as note changes in forest health.

*continued on page 3*

**NOVEMBER MEETING MONDAY November 1st 7:30pm  
PROGRAM: NAMA Gilled Mushrooms Part III  
Preceded by Board Meeting at 6:30pm**

Museum of Natural History & Science Multipurpose room  
1801 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque

## NMMS SHOPPING

### GREAT SELECTION!

Select from great books, CDs and DVDs that are practical and entertaining. They are useful to beginners as well as veteran mushroom hunters and make great gifts!

David Arora's  
*Mushrooms Demystified*  
\*M \$35.00 \*\*NM 38.50

David Arora's  
*All that the rain promises....*  
M\* \$16.00 \*\*NM\$17.50

Jack States'  
*Mushrooms and Truffels  
of the Southwest*  
\$7.00 \*MP \$9.00 \*\*NMP

Vera Stucky Evenson's  
*Mushrooms of Colorado and  
the Southern Rocky Mountains*  
**NOW ONLY** \$15.00 \*MP  
\$16.50 \*\*NMP

Toadstool's Interactive CD  
*The Secret Lives of Mushrooms*  
\*MP \$16.20 \*\*NMP \$18.00

Taylor Lockwood's DVD  
*Treasures from  
the Kingdom of Fungi*  
\*MP \$15.00 \*\*NMP \$17.00

Taylor Lockwood's Book  
*Treasures from  
the Kingdom of Fungi*  
\*M \$25.00 \*\*NM \$27.50

Available at meetings or  
contact Ann Floyd  
at 839-3890 or via  
e-mail: ann@mycowest.org

\*M = member price  
\*\* NM = non-member price

## NMMS MEETING 10/4/04

19:35--In President John Ra-  
hart's absence, Vice President  
Ann Floyd called the meeting to  
order in the multipurpose room  
at New Mexico Museum of  
Natural History.

### Attendees

14, including 1 visitor

### Treasurer' Report

Sharon Chong reported a balance  
of approximately \$4047.

### Old Business

Foray Feedback

Attendance: Foray - 71, Villa  
Fontana - 67

1. Several members agreed  
that the evening "socials" were a  
great idea.

2. Foray Chairwoman Pat  
Brannen said we need to set a  
firm deadline date for attendees.  
She also related that the Texas  
club uses a letter to explain the  
club's expectations of the guest  
mycologists, and the mycologists  
are asked to confirm their  
understanding and agreement by  
signing

3. Sharon wondered  
whether or not the mushroom  
tasting is worth all its hassle?  
Some members think it is worth  
it. Ann suggested that we rethink  
/ restructure the tasting activity.

4. Peggy Gorresen  
mentioned improving the  
lighting in future mushroom dis-  
play areas, also that we ought to  
have more manpower helping  
with identifying the incoming  
mushrooms.

5. Dave Wallis added that we  
could improve the display room  
presentation.

### New Business

1. Ann scheduled the next  
Board meeting for 6:30 PM on  
Monday November 1, 2004 at  
the NM Museum of Natural  
History, to immediately  
precede the general meeting  
starting at 7:30PM. Sharon will  
contact the Museum to make  
sure we can get in.

2. Election of 2005 officers -  
Dave volunteered to chair the  
nominating committee.

3. December potluck party -  
Mary Lee Sparks and Ellen Reed  
will decide the date, time, and  
place (to be on a Saturday, either  
Dec. 4 or Dec. 11) by Oct 21 in  
time for publication in the No-  
vember newsletter.

4. The Show & Tell, Pictures,  
and Stories Program began at  
20:15. Dave won the grand  
prize with his homemade mush-  
room collecting bags, fashioned  
from old pants. Ann provided  
prizes for all the presenters, who  
included Ruth Bronson, Dave  
and Terry Wallis, Peggy Gorre-  
sen, Ellen Reed, Pat Brannen,  
John Sparks, Sr., and Mark Ka-  
lin.

Meeting adjourned at 21:00

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Kalin

### Mail In Your 2005 Membership Dues!

Yearly dues are \$20 (optional  
NAMA dues are \$32)

Mail application & check to:  
NMMS Treasurer  
6336 Mendius, NE  
Albuq. NM 87109-4126

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

## MESSAGE FROM RICK KERRIGAN

Amigos en NMMS,

DNA sequencing of three interesting NM Agaricus collections is almost complete. With luck “finalizing” data will arrive Thursday. Meanwhile, enough data are in hand to tell you the score: two interesting species in the poisonous Xanthodermatei group have shaken out from the Isaacs/Angelfire 2004 foray. (Work on many other specimens will proceed more slowly).

Previously, I wrote about *A. iodismus* (based on RWK 1970, from John Sparks Jr.). Additional data have allowed some fine tuning: it appears more precisely to be an undescribed sister species that is also known from two European collections. (This is the one that really stinks.) With further study a new name will be in order.

I was even more interested in collections I numbered RWK 1971 (see photo) and 1972. I felt particularly strongly that RWK 1971 was a new, undescribed species. Well, most of the target DNA is sequenced: 1971 and 1972 are a single species which does, in fact, appear to be new. A new name will be needed. “RWK 1971” might be mistaken for *A. xanthodermus* but it does not yellow distinctly when rubbed, the caps open to a truncate shape, they have a slightly ruddy cast, and the stipe base can be quite bulbous. The latter three characters are not unique but taken together they create a +/- unique impression. Microscopy must still be done.

Based on DNA, other closest relatives of “RWK 1971” are *A. xanthodermus*, *A. moelleri*, and *A. menieri* (the latter two may occur only in Europe). I'm attaching a photo of RWK 1971 from the foray table. If anyone recognizes the collector's initials and can tell me more about the “Onate” site where these specimens were found, I'd be grateful. RWK 1972 was collected by “Larry.” I suspect it came from the Perrysville CG in Cimarron Canyon on Friday, but that was not recorded. Again, more info would be appreciated.

It would be prudent to study these new species more thoroughly before formally (thinking up and) proposing new names, so I ask for your patience. Perhaps next year more specimens will turn up. Meanwhile we have “indelible” DNA tags for them so we can add them to the permanent record, and discuss them on an equal footing with other species.

Thanks again for your continuing interest in matters Agaricus. Feel free to circulate this info around NMMS.

Best wishes to all,  
-- Rick



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Kittanning PA 16201

“*Après le deluge, Moi.*”

### *Fungi Expert .....continued from page 1*

As part of our forest restoration program, SCZ will inoculate cut stumps, downed trees, thinned brush and branches with both edibles and decomposers found in that ecosystem, and the inoculated slash will be placed on the forest floor (especially in watershed areas) to reduce erosion, create more soil, maintain greater moisture and produce more native mushrooms. The results and products of the entire project will be scientifically tested to verify content and the potential benefits.

SCZ is also working with the NM Forestry Division and NM State University on legislation for a statewide program that would institutionalize a fungi spore/culture bank (as well as other beneficial soil micro-organisms) and create the position for a first time State Microbiologist. We would love the formal participation of NMMS in this endeavor! Field trips, educational meetings and fungi culturing parties are planned in the future.

Contact [Lyndataylor@cybermesa.com](mailto:Lyndataylor@cybermesa.com) for scientific articles, volunteering, part time fungi work, events, call 505-986-1454, or see website.

**WE WELCOME  
YOUR FEEDBACK,  
PICTURES, ARTICLES AND  
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE  
NEWSLETTER**

Contact the editor at  
(505)-839-3890  
or send e-mail to:  
ann@mycowest.org



**THE QUILT**  
has a place of honor at  
Ted & Anne Stamper's house

**Submission Deadline  
For the December issue is  
Thursday November 25th**

## THE CULINARY CORNER



### CREMA di BOLETI VILLA FONTANA

Cream of mushroom soup with fresh rosemary

- 1 ½ oz dried Boletus edulis (porcini) mushrooms
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1 ½ tsp. Olive oil
- 4 ½ tsp. Minced onion
- ¼ tsp minced fresh rosemary
- 1 10-oz baking potato, peeled and grated
- 1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- ½ cup dry white wine
- 1-quart beef stock, preferably homemade
- Dash of Maggi seasoning (optional)
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 2 tsp. cornstarch
- ¼ cup milk
- ½ cup whipping cream
- Minced fresh parsley

Soak mushrooms in lukewarm water to cover until soft, about 30 minutes. Drain, rinse and cut into julienne pieces, discarding any hard parts. Melt butter with oil in large, heavy saucepan over medium-low heat. Add mushrooms, onion, garlic and rosemary. Cook until onion is golden brown, stirring occasionally, about 12 minutes. Add potato and flour. Stir 3 minutes. Add stock and white wine. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Reduce heat and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 25 minutes. Strain soup, pressing to extract as much liquid as possible. Return to saucepan. Season with Maggi, salt and pepper. Dissolve cornstarch in milk in small bowl. Stir in 1-cup hot soup. Return mixture to saucepan. Simmer until thickened and coats spoon lightly, stirring constantly, about 2 minutes. Mix in cream. Garnish with parsley. Makes about 1 quart.

Return address:

**NMMS**

6336 Mendius Ave. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109-4126



Send to:

*Visit NMMS on the Web at [www.mycowest.org](http://www.mycowest.org)*