



Ohio Mushroom Society

The Mushroom Log

Summer Foray Report, Carlisle Reservation

By Dave Miller

Some sixteen optimistic members plus six non-members, (one couple plus 4 Oberlin College students), all showed up for the summer foray, despite the almost biblical dearth of moisture during the previous six weeks. As if to rub our collective noses in it, nearly 2 inches of rain fell just 2 days before the event! However that was too little: (mycorrhizal mushrooms will not share in this, their tree hosts taking the bulk of it); too late: (except for some wood decay fungi or fairy ring mushrooms, *Marasmius oreades*) it takes more than 2 days for mushrooms to develop after a rain.

Several members showed up on Friday night for dinner at The Feve. The next day dawned sunny and warm,

and we convened at the spacious Black River Room at Carlisle Reservation. After a brief introduction to the Lorain County Metroparks system by Sarah Kraft, followed by a description of the day's upcoming events by yours truly, we broke up into several groups and, using provided maps of the reservation, walked along several of their many trails. Near noon, we reassembled to spread out the specimens, begin their identification and enjoy another of our famous potlucks provided by our members' culinary skills.

Right after lunch, Joe Strong gave a brief slide presentation describing his 5 year ongoing cataloguing of the fungi he's found at Lorain Country's Sandy Ridge Park. We broke into 3 groups: some went with Joe to Sandy Ridge, some joined Pete and Pauline, Jerry, and I going down to Findlay State Park, and some decided to stay at Carlisle and try their luck once more.

We all gathered at the Carlisle later that afternoon, worked on identifying the

specimens. Walt gave a talk on Some Interesting Non-Gilled Fungi, a broad net which included *Scorias spongiosus*, a fungus which grows on aphid honeydew; Indian Pipe, one among several non-photosynthetic flowering plants which "steals" (i.e., is parasitic) its carbohydrate from trees, via a fungus which forms a partnership between the two plants; the ecology and edibility of a variety of polypores, spine, club, and coral fungi.

After wrapping up the identifying, we reconvened at the Feve for more good food and drink.

The next morning, Joe Strong, Pete and Pauline Munk, and I returned to finish the cleanup to what we considered a rather successful foray, despite the non-cooperation of the elements. I've even heard it said that planning a foray is a good way to insure a dry spell! Apparently both the NAMA and NEMF forays this past summer suffered a similar cruel fate.

Carlisle Species List

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Unmarked names are from Carlisle, those with an * are from Sandy Ridge, and the one "F" is from Findlay.

Slime Molds

Ceratomyxa fruticulosa
**Fuligo septima*
**Lycogala epidendron*

Ascomycetes

**Daldinia concentrica*
Galiella rufa
Peziza repanda
Scutellinia scutellata
Xylaria hypoxylon
**X. polymorpha*

Polypores

Abortiporus biennis
Cerrena unicolor
**Ganoderma applanatum*
G. lucidum
**Laetiporus cinncinatus*
L. sulfurous
Oligoporus caesius
**Phellinus gilvus*
Polyporus arcularis
P. radicata
P. squamosus
**Schizophyllum commune*
**Stereum complicatum*
**S. ostrea*
**Trichaptum bifforme*
Tyromyces chioneus

Agarics, White Spored

**Amanita farinosa*
Crinipellis zonatum
Cryptotrampa asprata?
**Gymopus dichrous*
G. dryophilus
Hohenbuehelia sp.
Lyophyllum sp.
**Marasmiella nigripes*
M. rotula
Mycena galericulata
M. haematopus
M. leiana
M. subcaerulea

(F)*Omphalotus illudens*
**Panellus stipticus*
**Pleurotus ostreatus*
Russula mariae
R. sp (2 of them)
Xeromphalina kaufmannii
Xerula megalospora

Agarics, Dark Spored

Agaricus campestris
Agrocybe molesta
Clitopilus prunulus
Coprinus micaceus
**Crepidotus applanatus*
**C. mollis*
Inocybe sp.
Paneolus foenicii
**Phaeomarasmius erinaceellus*
**Pluteus cervinus*

Chanterelles

Cantharellus cibarius
**C. lateritus*

Boletes

Boletus fraternus
**B. innixus*
B. subvelutipes
**Gyrodon merulioides*
**Phylloporus rhodoxanthus*

Jelly Fungi

Auricularia auricula
**Calocera cornea*
Exidia alba

Coral Fungi

**Clavicornia pyxidata*
**Sparassus spathulata* or *herbstii*

Puffballs

Scleroderma areolatum
S. cepa
S. lycoperoides

The Triumph of the Fungi A Rotten History

By Nicholas P. Money

Oxford University Press, 2007.

Reviewed by Dave Miller

This is the third book Nicholas Money has written, the first two being Mr. Bloomfield's Orchard and Carpet Monsters and Killer Spores. He spoke on topics from the latter book at the Dick Grimm Banquet in 2005 for those of you who were there and you probably remember his ironic sense of humor and fact packed presentation. His new book is every bit as good as his talk and his two previous books. It is a history of plant pathology from its beginnings in the 19th century to the present. Since most plant pathogens are fungi, it is a history of problems humans have had with crop losses due to outbreaks of fungal disease. The titles of his chapter headings listed below, are followed by a more prosaic description of mine which gives you a sense of Nik's wry sense of humor.

Topics covered in the 8 Chapters include:

1. Landscape Architect: Chestnut Blight.
2. A Farewell to Elms: Dutch Elm Disease.
3. The Decaffeinator: Coffee Rust.

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4. Chocaholic Mushroom: *Crinipellis perniciososa*, a mushroom forming fungus, one of only a few such mushroom pathogens (the Honey Mushroom, *Armillaria mellea* is another you are probably familiar with, as it is a good edible.) By the way there was a specimen of *Crinipellis zonatum* collected at the summer foray. All species of *Crinipellis* are saprotrophs on dead wood, often twigs or woody debris, except, of course, for this unusual parasite on cacao.
5. Rubber Eraser: Rubber Blight Fungus, *Mycrocyclus ulei*.
6. Cereal Killers: bunt fungus, corn smut, and wheat rust.
7. Potato Soup: Late Blight of Potato, *Phytophthora infestans*.
8. Blights, Rusts, and Rots Never Sleep: A Look at Forestry and Agriculture, Biological Warfare, and the Global Impact of Fungal Disease.

In discussing each of the fungal diseases, Nik includes a great deal of the history of the field of Plant Pathology, the economics of the colonial systems which supported the development of monoculture of particular crops, and how that system of monoculture contributes to the epidemic outbreaks of disease. This is an entertaining and informative read, highly recommended.

Indoor Fungus Molecules may Protect

Infants against Future Allergies

Reprinted from *Science Daily*, 1 May 2007, via *The Spore Print*, L.A. Myco. Soc., May 2007

Maybe being a fussy housekeeper isn't such a good thing after all.

Environmental health scientists at the University of Cincinnati (UC) say they have confirmed what other scientists have only suspected: early-life exposure to certain indoor fungal components (molecules) can help build stronger immune systems, and may protect against future allergies.

The UC team found that infants who were exposed to high levels of indoor fungal components-known as fungal glucans-were nearly three times less likely to wheeze compared with infants exposed to low levels.

Fungal glucans are tiny molecules that scientists believe cause respiratory symptoms in adults. Crawling infants are often exposed to these molecules when they disturb dust on carpet or floors in their homes.

Study lead author and environmental health scientist Yulia Iossifova says exposure to high levels of these molecules may also protect against allergy

development in high-risk infants.

"The immune system's protective effects only appear to occur when there are high levels of microbial exposure," she explains. "Cleaner environments do not have enough microbial components to trigger the immune system response."

The UC team reports their findings in the May 2007 edition of the scientific journal *Allergy*. This epidemiological study is the first to suggest that early-life exposure to high levels of indoor fungal glucans can have a positive impact on the human immune system.

"Fungi are a diverse group of microorganisms, so species differ in their glucan content and allergenic proteins. Some fungi also contain mycotoxins that can contribute to disease," adds Tiina Reponen, PhD, professor of environmental health and corresponding author of the study. "Exposure to indoor molds during infancy may be associated with respiratory symptoms, such as persistent coughing and wheezing."

The UC-led team analyzed the effects of microbial exposures to both fungal glucans and endotoxins (natural compounds secreted from disease-causing agents like bacteria) in 574 infants, enrolled in the Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air

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Pollution Study (CCAAPS), who were identified as being at greater risk for future allergies because at least one parent had known allergies.

The CCAAPS, funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, is a five-year study at UC examining the effects of environmental particulates on childhood respiratory health and allergy development.

UC researchers collected dust samples from each infant's primary activity room and analyzed them for indoor allergens, fungal glucans, and bacterial endotoxins. They also gathered information about the home, including the presence of any visible mold and water damage. Environmental and food allergy development was monitored through annual skin prick tests. Scientists say early-life exposure to common microbial components-like bacterial endotoxins and fungal glucans-can stimulate the body's immune system to produce infection- and allergy-fighting substances. Because of this, lossifova says, people should avoid overusing antibacterial sprays and soaps to clean their bodies and homes.

"Certain microbes can have helpful affects in the body," she explains, "but antibacterial disinfectants can't discriminate between helpful and harmful

microbes-they destroy them all.

"This eliminates the natural competition among bacteria and fungi, so the surviving microbes are often the infectious ones that can develop resistance to drugs designed to eliminate them."

lossifova says further research is needed to determine how early microbial exposures affect the development of certain allergic conditions-including asthma, dermatitis, and hay fever-later in life.

La Scultori

By Dick Grimm

If you think you would like to "pottery" around and feel the need to free the Michelangelo Buonarroti that is clambering about in your being, you might give this a try. It's the novice way to be a scultori without the mess that goes with the wheel and sloppy clay. You don't need an expensive potters kiln or any of the paraphernalia that goes with those of a more serious demeanor about sculpting.

The magical component is a compound called, "Sculpey". Understand, even though it may sound like it, this is not an advertisement for the product. I came across this stuff when Daphne Vasconcelose made for me a neat sculpture of *Strobilomyces floccopus*. That's, "The Old Man Of The

Woods", for those of you who fear Latin.

Anyhow, I was so impressed by the gift that it prompted me to try my own hand at it, especially when Janet Sweigart offered me a commission to sculpt her some mushroom statuettes. A commission? Me? Move over Buonarroti. Up to this time the only thing I'd ever sculpted was a sand castle on the beach at Nags Head, North Carolina, and the ghost crabs weren't even impressed with that.

Since Daphne had revealed her secret ingredient to me (the Sculpey) I purchased a box of the magic potent and took a shot at being a scultori. It was surprising how well it went and how fast the process was. Since I had been a long time toadstool picker I found it rather easy to simply do the mushrooms from memory. On occasion I would need to look one up that I wasn't too familiar with but usually it just came to me naturally.

Anyone who has attempted this sculpting project knows that the most difficult thing is forming mushroom gills. I thought I had that whipped when I recalled a "Mushroom Coral" I had purchased in a shell shop in Florida years back. I pressed this replica of lamellae into the clay and presto ... it worked; well, for a couple of tries anyhow. The spaces between the coral gills began to clog up and, as I now recall, the coral ended up against the workshop wall where many of my

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frustrating articles often end their disuse.

From that point on I used a razor blade and cut each gill separately. It was very time consuming but necessary. I used a pin type flower-arranging holder my wife had around and jabbed the pores into my *Bolete* hymenium. Worked well. The flower holder retained life and the workshop wall remained unmarked.

I mounted all of these mushrooms on one-half to three-quarter inch plywood squares large enough to accommodate the size of the sculpture. I used plywood because a square that small would not be likely to warp. The base could be stopped at that point, but I had to get fancy. I covered the plywood with spackling (dry wall) compound allowed it to dry, then painted it with acrylic paint, usually a smear of assorted earth tones. This was followed by actual natural components such as leaves, cones, acorns, moss, and whatever the natural habitat of the mushroom called for. The lignicolous varieties were mounted on pieces of branches anchored to the plywood base, either horizontally or upright, to represent either a fallen log or a remaining stump.

You would do well to make the larger replicas in components regarding the cap and stem. Press the stem into the cap when the Sculpey is raw to form a good fitting socket. Use a dowel or some appropriate devise to create a socket that

accepts the stem circumference. Push the stem to fit tight and form its own fit. Mark the top of the stem and the socket edge with matching dents so that when the components are baked you will know exactly where they fit together. I found that sometimes, when I had a large annulus, or a special type annulus (see *Dictyophora duplicata*) that it was better to form it by itself, too. Then, after it was baked to drop it down over the stem, in place, and glue it. Remember to do this before the cap is attached!

I turned deck screws of appropriate length up through the plywood base allowing a smooth place on the topside of the base to accommodate the stem when I was ready to anchor the shroom. I bored holes in the baked stem afterwards to accommodate the screw. Don't make the hole too small in diameter, just about the same size, then put glue on the screw and put water in the hole in the stem. (See "Gorilla Glue" at end of this article). Turn the stem down over the screw. *Volvas* are also made separately and glued in place. These, too, are formed to fit well when the Sculpey is raw.

If one plans to sculpt mushrooms to sit around the house and never be moved about, all the anchors and screws for the most part, are probably unnecessary. Gorilla Glue will suffice. Janet plans to transport her statues when giving mushroom talks and I wanted to be sure each sculpture was well anchored.

As I mentioned before, I used acrylic paint. It dries fast and one can mix colors to suit the mushroom. COLOR IS VERY IMPORTANT! Don't buy Sculpey that is colored! For durability give the mushroom several coats of acrylic (or some water base, clear varnish). NEVER put an oil base varnish on acrylic. Again, if the statues are not to be transported and bumped around you may want to eliminate the varnish altogether. I would need to admit that it takes away the natural look of mushrooms that are of a matte appearance in real life. One could actually use a matte acrylic for painting these. Gloss is good for those shrooms that are viscid in nature. Using natural components (leaves etc.) are extremely time consuming. One needs to collect them, they must be dry, and after they are placed, must be varnished several times to make them brittle and "pseudopottery" looking.

You might want to try your hand at this. It's not as difficult as one might suppose. I turned out 100 replicas for Janet, so you see it's not too tough a job.

USE GORILLA GLUE! This glue is nothing short of miraculous. If you do not transport your sculpting (or even if you do) it will hold your entire components and anchors super great. I glued a broken birdbath with this stuff and it's in its second year. It hasn't leaked a drop. It's expensive

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but it takes so very little to do the job. Use as directed. You will use too much until you understand how very little it actually takes. Buy it in the smallest bottle. It has a tendency to dry in the neck. Keep the cap on tight. If it does dry, simply punch it open ... it may take a small diameter nail. Never get water in the bottle; the glue is triggered with water. Glue on one part, water on the other. See instructions. Follow directions on the box for baking. It is baked in your kitchen oven ... very simple, very easy. Bon sculpting!

Ed. Note: Dick is more generous with his sculptures than he lets on: At the summer, 2005 foray at Hiram he gave one of *Boletus rhodosanguineus* to Ernst Both to honor Ernst's work in naming and describing this bolete. Dick had been finding it for years, in Ohio but not in books. Ernst determined that it was new to science and published a paper detailing its characteristics.

Mycodigest: The Lichen/Non- lichen Connection

By Else C. Vellinga

One thing we knew for certain about lichens: the fungal partner of the lichen symbiosis could not live its whole life cycle without a photosynthesizing slave providing sugars to the fungus. These enslaved, encapsulated algae or cyanobacteria (formerly known as blue algae) can live without

the fungi, but the fungus had to find an algal or bacterial partner, the photobiont.

Now we have to rethink this certainty, as it was recently shown that the same fungal species can exist both with and without photobionts and in each case the fungus forms fruit bodies and sexual spores. Both lifestyles were known: the surprise is in their identification. *Stictis* species were originally the ones without a partner, growing on branches stripped of bark. *Conotrema* was the name for a lichenized species, growing on the bark of trees. Now, there can only be one name, and this is *Stictis*, since it is the older name.

If a spore of the fungus lands on bare branches they will grow as a lonely fungus, as no algal cells are found in this habitat. If a spore lands on the bark of a tree it will find an algal partner and go on as a lichen. This strategy of optional lichenization has many advantages in fast changing ecosystems experiencing disturbance or succession. Of course the finding that one and the same fungal species can live either as a fungus or as a lichen, raises many new issues; how widespread is this phenomenon, where does the fungus find its carbon when it is living without photobionts, and what is the role of lichenization in the evolution of the fungi?

The *Stictis/Conotrema* connection was unraveled by researchers from Sweden who had extensively collected on *Populus tremula*, a trembling

aspen species in the northern boreal region of Scandinavia. They show their surprise and enthusiasm for their discovery in the following paper:

Sedin, M., H. Doring & G. Gilenstam, 2004. Saprotrophy and lichenization as options for the same fungal species on different substrata: environmental plasticity and fungal lifestyles in the *Stictis-Conotrema* complex. *New Phytologist* 164: 459-465.

Ed. Note: Another hoary "truism" bites the dust This finding might offer clues as to how the lichen association was established in the first place.

Fall Mini- Foray- Sand Barrens

By Pete & Pauline Munk

Ed. Note: *this is a repeat of the announcement made in the July/Aug. Log, as a reminder so you'll attend this mini-foray.*

Site: North Kingsville Sand Barrens & Kingsville Swamp.

Our fall miniforay will try a new location in Ashtabula County. We will meet Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007 at the CMNH Sand Barrens at 10:00 am. There are no facilities-so stop before you arrive! We plan to break for lunch at a nearby pizza place and head for the "swamp" in the afternoon. We will finish by 2:30 pm.

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Call Pete & Pauline Munk for more information at 440/236-9222.

Directions: Take I-90 east to the Ohio Rte. 193 exit. Follow 193 north to US Rt. 20 east. Travel on US Rte. 20 east to Poore Road. A left (north) on Poore Rd. will take you the Preserve, located just on the other side of the railroad tracks.

Knox Lake, OMS Miniforay Species List

Dick Grimm led an impromptu Mini-foray on Aug. 18, 2007. David Johnson, Hugh Urban, and Dick compiled the following species list:

Agaricus placomyces
A. silvicola
Amanita brunnescens
A. citrina
A. flavoconia
A. rubescens (The Blusher)
A. virosa (Deadly!!)
Boletus auriporus
B. frostii
B. ornatipes
B. pallidus
B. (Xanticonium) separans
B. subvelutipes
Cantharellus lateritus
Clavicornia pyxidata
Clitocybe (gibba?)
Collybia (Gymnopus) dryophila
Coriolus (Trametes) versicolor
Cortinarius sp. [brown cap, lavender-brown stem widening gradually to a bulbous base]
Favolus alveolaris (=Polyporus mori)
Galiella rufa
Ganoderma applanatum
Gyrodon merulioides
Gyroporus castaneus

Hygrophorus (Hygrocybe) nitidus
Hypomyces sp. (parasitic fungus on Russula)
Inocybe sp.
Laccaria ochropurpurea (tiny)
Lactarius hygrophoroides
L. oculatus group
Lepiota rubrotincta
Marasmius sp.
Megacollybia platyphylla
Phylloporus rhodoxanthus
Pleurotus ostreatus
Polyporus varius
Russula aetruginea
R. brevipes
R. brunneola
R. compacta
R. crustosa
R. earlei
R. foetens complex (3 sp.)
R. krombholzii
R. lepida
R. mariae
R. nigricans, parasitized by *Nyctalis asterophora*
R. variata
R. virescens
Schizophyllum commune
Scleroderma (either bovist or citrinum?)
Stereum ostrea (False Turkey Tail)
Strobilomyces floccopus (Old Man of the Woods)
Tricholomopsis decora
Tylopilus indecisus
T. plumbeoviolaceus
Xerula furfurea

Dick Grimm Banquet

Come join us **Nov. 10, 2007** for the 11th annual Dick Grimm Banquet to be held on the shores of beautiful Buckeye Lake at the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club. BLYC is the oldest inland yacht club in the country and celebrated its centennial last year.

Time: 4:30 – 5:30 PM
Mushroom hors D'oeuvres.
Cash bar in the Gob's Mess.
5:30 – 6:30 Dave Miller, retired Prof of Biology from Oberlin College, will give a program on "What are the Mushrooms up to between Infrequent Fruitings", in the Commodore's Lounge, followed by dinner, seating in the Fireplace Room.

Location: Coming from east or west on I-70, get off at Rt. 79 and go south toward Buckeye Lake. The road bends to the right before going into the lake. Bear right at the stop sign, (don't stop) and look for the BLYC parking lot on the left after a National City bank and a Catholic Church. (Don't stop at the fenced-in boat storage yard that has a BLYC sign on it) The parking lot entrance has two stone pillars with the BLYC emblem on them and red and green lights. Park in the paved lot and walk up the ramp to the walkway and turn right. The club is through an iron gate onto Watkins Island. Look for the OMS sign on the gate.

We will order directly from the menu. Checks will include the cost of what you order plus a 15% gratuity plus a charge for the hors D'oeuvres and use of the facilities.

We need an accurate head count by Nov 7th! See the registration form on Page 9 below.

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**Articles for the next
newsletter**

Deadline –Nov. 26-

David Miller
352 W. College St.
Oberlin, OH 44074
David.H.Miller@oberlin.edu

Calendar of Events

OMS Events

Email Jerry at g_pepera@sbcglobal.net to receive notification of impromptu events. Check your most recent issue of the *Mushroom Log* for event updates and for more detailed information. Please plan to join us.

Impromptu mini forays, as follows:

An open invitation to anyone who wants to mushroom hunt in Fredericktown. Call Dick Grimm (740) 694-0782, and if he's available and there are mushrooms in the woods, he will go.

Email Jerry as instructed above.

Sept. 29-30. Fall Foray, Deep Woods, Hocking Co. See announcement on Page 1 of the July/Aug. 2007 issue of the Log. Walt Sturgeon. (330) 426-9833.



October 13, 2007 Sand Barrens-North Kingsville, Pete & Pauline Munk. (440) 236-9222. See announcement on page 6 in this issue of the Log for details.

Sat. Nov. 10th. Annual Dick Grimm Banquet. Buckeye Lake Yacht Club. See details on page 7.

Ohio & Regional

Closed for the season!

National & More

Wildacres North Carolina Foray 10th Anniversary
Sept. 27-30.

Limited to 50 NAMA members. Registration is \$200 per person, inclusive of double occupancy. Contact Glenda O'neal at wildacres@namyco.org

Jan. 19-21, 2008. SOMA Wild Mushroom Camp

This is a great event, should you happen to find yourself in the Bay Area of northern Calif. The whole package, lodging in shared comfy cabins, all meals, full program is only \$275 for the full 3-day weekend. It is held in the hills of western Somoma Co. in the town of Occidental. Expert speakers TBA, forays, classes & workshops, artwork, specimen tables, feasting, presentations, mushroom chefs and more! Please register online at www.SOMAmushrooms.org or contact SOMAcampinfo@SOMAmushrooms.org or call (707) 773-1011.

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Membership Application for the Ohio Mushroom Society

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Enclosed please find check or money order: \$10.00 (family) annual _____ \$125 life _____
enrolling me in the Ohio Mushroom Society. My interests are:

Mushroom Eating/Cookery _____ Photography _____ Nature Study _____

Mushroom ID _____ Cultivation _____ Other (specify) _____

Would you like to be an OMS volunteer? In what way? _____

How did you hear about us? _____

SIGNATURE _____

May OMS provide your name to other mushroom related businesses? Yes ___ No ___

Return form and money to: Ohio Mushroom Society, c/o Dick Doyle, 14 Sunset Hill, Granville, OH 43023-1162

Reminders: Please send your E-mail and mailing address changes to Dick Doyle at the above address.

11th Annual Dick Grimm Banquet November 10, 2007 Buckeye Lake Yacht Club

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Number of reservations: _____

Return form by mail or email by Nov. 7th to OMS c/o Dick Doyle, 14 Sunset Hill, Granville, OH 43023-1162 or
doyle@denison.edu

Payment can be made at the Yacht Club using cash or credit card.

2007 Ohio Mushroom Society Volunteers

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