

BMC 2010-2011 Winter Programs

Unless stated otherwise, all programs will be held in the Seminar Room in the Harvard Herbaria, at the end of Divinity Avenue in Cambridge at 7 P.M.

November 15th: Kathie Hodge on "Vegetable Wasps: Fungi that Kill Bugs" We are lucky to have Kathie, Cornell's Associate Professor of Mycology, giving us a post-Halloween talk (with terrifying but fascinating photos) of some of the fungi that immobilize, torture, consume and (finally) kill insects.

December 6th: Our annual Duff Sale is a chance to meet fellow mycophiles over a glass (okay, a paper cup) of wine, while accomplishing painless holiday shopping. Our theme this year is "Edibles and Readables", and there will be fresh and dried mushrooms for sale (maybe even a truffle or two), along with mushroom-themed cards and books. As an added lure for new members, some of the older members will talk about their favorite mushroom guides.

January 9th: (Tentative) A Sunday afternoon workshop on microscopy! There are some identifications that you really can't make without a microscope, and some fungal features that require a microscope to appreciate. Jason Karakehian and Harvard mycologists will show you how to do it. 1 to 5 P.M.

January 17th: BMC member Larry Millman, a well known explorer, writer and mycophile, will talk on "Rare Fungi". What constitutes rarity in a fungus? Is it imminent extinction? Stringent habitat preferences? Desultory fruitings? Come to Larry's talk to learn more!

February 7th: Our annual film night (with cider and popcorn) will feature "Know Your Mushrooms". NOT an I.D. movie but a documentary about the wildly eccentric forager, Larry Evans. Should be fun! (This is the film we tried to get last year only to discover that it wasn't available until the day after our movie date. Since we never give up, see it now!)

March 7th: Nicholas Money, Professor at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, one of the top experimental mycologists in the world and, probably the greatest English language popularizer of mycology, will talk about his lab's recent dramatic discoveries in the field of ballistospory, or how mushrooms eject their spores. This is a not-to-be-missed talk and many of you will want to attend Nic's Wednesday talk at Harvard as well. (This is a good place to suggest that you read Nic's fascinating books, starting with "Mr. Bloomfield's Orchard".)

March 23rd: A Winter (okay, spring) Foray at the Museum of Fine Arts, looking for mushrooms in paintings and sculpture. It's a Wednesday evening so that you don't have to pay \$20 to enter (although you may if you wish). We'll meet at 7 PM at the Visitor's Center. Those who wish to have dinner at the museum could meet at 6 in the New American Cafe, next to the Visitor's Center.

April 3rd: A Sunday afternoon workshop on mushroom photography. We've captured Dianna Smith, to give us pointers on how the pros do it, and show us some of her work. Dianna will

start out with basics for the point and shooters, and then move on to the more advanced stuff for those who take their photography seriously. 1 to 5 P.M.

Please don't forget the May culinary event.