

Date and time: Saturday July 14 2022 1:00 - 5:15 pm

Weather: Pr 0 mm; RH 55%; BP 101.6 kPa; clear; winds calm; T 29° C.

Contents: Dr Thorn is assisted by a gang of mushroom hunters.



Our troop of Mushroom Hunters consisted of [from left to right] Winnie Wake, Steve Logan, Greg Thorn, students Makaila Lloyd and Beau Daigneault, Dave Wake, Peter and Muriel Andreae. Missing: Bruce Parker, Gordon and Susan Price,

We gathered in the Nook after parking at the camp, some 12 of us, all eager to get started. Greg Thorn, the mycologist in charge, divided us into groups and off we went. I had no idea what the other groups were experiencing, except for Gordon Price and his sister Susan who were assigned to the Fleming Creek area, returning later with a small number of specimens that I thought would be typical of the other groups.

Meanwhile, Bruce Parker and I had assigned ourselves the Gallery Forest Zone. We spent perhaps an hour criss-crossing the terrain. Bruce found some fungal crust on a dead branch, but I found nothing collectable. Then Bruce hit a drought until I sent him partway down down the creek bluffs, as it looked moister. He came back a little later with two aging brown cup fungi. about the only respectable find at our end of things. Before we knew it, we were gathered once more in the Nook, waiting for the others to return. Until the others returned, we relaxed in the Nook, talking about nothing in particular until the others returned as distant voices.

Greg sounded enthusiastic as he described their finds, including a Netted Rhodotus (See below) and a mushroom in the *Neofavolus* genus, at a guess. The collecting prize of the day went to Muriel Andreae who found no less than three significant growths, two of which were new species!

Birds: (13 birds: courtesy of Winnie Wake, Dave Wake, and Greg Thorn)
American Crow (UM); American Goldfinch (BCF); Blue Jay (BCF); Carolina Wren (BCF); Common Yellowthroat (UM); Eastern Kingbird (UM); Eastern Wood Pewee (BCF); Field Sparrow (UM); Northern Cardinal {BCF}; Red-tailed Hawk (BCF); Song Sparrow (RB); Turkey Vulture (UM); White-breasted Nuthatch (HB).

Phenology: property very dry, with a precipitation shortfall of 120 mm to date.

Biological Inventory (ATBI)

Record of species found: (a preliminary list from Greg)

1. *Neofavolus* cf. *alveolaris* (has been called *Favolus a.* in past, but is likely a distinct, American species)
2. *Cerioporus varius* (= *Polyporus varius*)
3. *Schizophyllum commune*
4. *Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae* (aecia on *Crataegus* leaves)

Blind Creek (Greg, Muriel, Peter, David, Winnie, Beau, Makayla)

5. *Arcyria nutans*
6. *Arcyria* sp. – past its prime
7. *Artomyces pyxidatus* (= *Clavicornonona pyxidata*)
8. Beige resupinate polypore – to be determined
9. *Cerioporus squamosus*
10. *Cerioporus varius* – very long-stalked
11. *Cerrena unicolor*
12. *Crepidotus calolepis*
13. Flesh-tone corticioid – to be determined
14. *Fuscoporia ?gilva*
15. *Hemitrichia* sp. – past its prime
16. *Lentinus tigrinus* – secotioid form
17. *Loweomyces fractipes* (= *Abortiporus f.*)
18. *Mycena leaiana*
19. *Neofavolus suavissimus* – striking odour of anise or sweet grass
20. Orange resupinate polypore – to be determined
21. *Phanerochaete chrysorhiza*

- 22. *Phellinopsis conchata*
- 23. *Pluteus* sp. – past its prime
- 24. *Porotheleum fimbriatum*
- 25. *Radulomyces ?molaris*
- 26. *Rhodotus palmatus*
- 27. *Scutellinia ?scutellata*
- 28. *Stereum* spp.
- 29. *Trametes versicolor*
- 30. Two different LBMs on decayed wood

Top of Hogsback (same crew)

- 31. *Pluteus* sp. 2 – very fine, pearl grey, but solitary, not kept

North of Hogsback in Thames riparian forest (same crew)

- 32. White collybioid mushroom – to be determined

New species:

Tiger sawgill	<i>Lentinus tigrinus</i>	BCT/W maGT J114/22
‘Anise Oyster’	<i>Neofavolus suavissimus</i>	BCT/W. maGT J114/22

Image Gallery
(with thanks to Dave Wake)



This Netted Rhodotus (*Rhodotus palmatus*) Has a fascinating cap consisting of a set of “reticulate wrinkles” that make it resemble a fancy desert item.



This Coral Fungus is called *Artomyces (Clavicornia) pyxidatus*. Normally fuller and more robust, this specimen looks withered due to the current dry spell.



The Cup Fungus shown here can be guessed as *Scutellinia scutellata*, featuring a rim of little black “eyelashes” surrounding the cup. Cup Fungi belong to a different class of fungi than the foregoing ones. That class disperses its spores differently.



This image is a difficult call for a mycologist to make. In the absence of a specimen, it could be a crust fungus or something more exotic, such as a slime with a coating of yeast.. It turned out to be the latter.



courtesy Dave Wake

We close with this wonderful composition looking downriver. It brings out what seems to be a slightly richer shade of green in our treed landscapes that I have ever seen before. Others seem to have noticed this subtle colour shift as well. If it's real, it might be attributed to an increase in CO₂ uptake, amounting to who knows how many trillions of tonnes per year, worldwide. The gas is incorporated into chlorophyll and cellulose among other structural and functional elements. It may sound strange to say, but all our trees have come, for the most part, from the sky!

MOTH NITE AT NEWPORT FOREST

Moth Nite will be held this Sunday evening. Naturalist and moth expert Allen Woodliffe will demonstrate backlighting (light-trapping) as a means of observing moths and other nocturnal flying insects. Arrive at 8 pm and park at farm gate. Enjoy the endless creativity in those magical wings! Demo closes at 10:00 pm.

