

# The Boletus

*Gulf States Mycological Society, Inc.*

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David P. Lewis, President; W. David Fuller, Vice President;

Patricia Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer/Editor; Juan Luis Mata, Webmaster;

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## 2011 MEMBERSHIP DUES

**IF YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING LABEL IS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW AND THE YEAR AFTER YOUR NAME IS '10, YOUR DUES ARE PAST DUE, AND THIS MAY BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER YOU WILL RECEIVE. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "GSMS" IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15 - SINGLE OR \$20 – FAMILY TO-GSMS, 262 CR 3062, NEWTON, TX 75966. IF YOU WISH TO PAY YOUR NAMA DUES AT THE REDUCED RATE OF \$32, INCLUDE A SEPARATE CHECK PAYABLE TO "NAMA" IN THE SAME ENVELOPE. PLEASE MAIL NOW.**

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## **BIG THICKET MUSHROOM WALK IN TEXAS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2011**

**We will not cancel this Walk. If the drought continues and there are no fungi, come join us for a walk in the forest, and have your mushroom questions answered afterward.**

We will meet at 10 AM at the Big Thicket National Preserve (BTNP) Field Research Station (FRS), located in Saratoga TX, on the west side of the highway. Saratoga is approx. 35 miles NW of Beaumont. The FRS is on FM 770, north off TX Hwy 105 between Beaumont and Cleveland. We will foray into the Lance Rosier Unit of the BTNP, collect and record species, and thereby assist with the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) species list for the BTNP.

After collecting, we will return to the FRS, have lunch, and discuss the morning's finds. Bring collecting gear, rainwear, water, bug spray, and a sack lunch. Please call or email with any questions: David & Patricia Lewis 409-423-3776 or email: [dandplewis \(@\) gmail.com](mailto:dandplewis@gmail.com)

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## **GULF STATES WINTER FORAY DECEMBER 2 – 4, 2011**

**Percy Quinn State Park, McComb MS  
FINAL DATE FOR THE FOOD COUNT AND  
ROOM RELEASE IS NOVEMBER 16. WE**

## **MUST RECEIVE YOUR REGISTRATION FORM BY THAT DATE, OR CALL OR EMAIL PATRICIA LEWIS TO HOLD YOUR SPOT.**

Come join us for our return to this rustic park near the Louisiana state line. The Park, one of the original parks constructed by the CCC in the 1930's, has 1700 acres of rolling hills, a lake, golf course, nature trails, and other outdoor activities. Camping and RV parking is available. It is located approx. 75 miles north of New Orleans. We are able to collect in the Park, and we plan to use the nature trails. There is also a National Forest nearby, for those who prefer to go there. There has been more rain in the area than in Texas and Louisiana, and we hope for good collecting. Directions: Off I-55, take the Fernwood exit 13, go west on Fernwood, go right at stop sign on Hwy 48, and a very short distance to Park on left.

Our mycologists for this foray will be our own "Resident Mycologists" Jay Justice, David Lewis, and Juan Luis Mata. We plan a round-table discussion of fungi on Saturday evening, following a presentation by Jay Justice on "Southernfied Mushrooms". This is the presentation he gave at NAMA 2011, held in August in Clarion, PA.

Cost of the Foray, \$242 single/ \$320 double, will include lodging, Saturday lunch and catered dinner, and socials both nights. **All rooms/cabins have full kitchen facilities, so bring your own breakfast supplies.** There are no microwaves, but you may bring your own if needed.

On entering the Park, follow the signs to the Park Office. Enter the building and proceed past the main desk to the double doors on the right past the game room. This is known as the Dining Room. We will be there to meet and greet you after 2PM.

We will be lodged at Percy Quinn State Park. We will provide a rooming list to the Park before the foray. All lodging questions should be directed to Patricia Lewis, NOT to the Park. Room keys will be available at the Park Office until 5PM, and at the Ranger Station at the main park entrance from 5PM until 9PM. After 9PM, see Patricia Lewis in the Dining Room for your key. Check-in time is 3PM and check-out time is 11AM, for all rooms. We have reserved 5 rooms at the Motel/Lodge, 9 cabins and 4 chalet rooms. All have 2 beds, except 1 motel/lodge room. All beds are queen sized. There is a 2-story Motel /Lodge, all cabins stand alone, and a chalet is basically a duplex. See the description of the lodging on the registration form to make your selection.

On Friday night, we have tables reserved from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at Mr. Whiskers Family Catfish, 5196 Hwy 48 West, McComb, just 1 ½ miles north of the Park on Hwy 48. They have meals starting at \$5, with fried, baked, and boiled selections, as well as an AYCE option. Ask to be seated with the Mushroom group. We will begin our social after dinner around 8:30PM in the Dining Room, with mushroom slides, and discussion of field trips and Saturday activities.

On Saturday, we will provide lunch items in the Dining Room from 11:30 am to 1:00PM. As we will foray in the Park, you will be able to return during those hours to have your lunch. Saturday dinner will be catered in the Dining Room beginning at 6:30PM. After dinner, we will have presentations and discussions, followed by a social.

Sunday morning at 9AM we will have the “walk around the tables”, a discussion of the fungi found, by the mycologists. Check out time is 11:00AM.

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### **GULF STATES SUMMER FORAY**

**JULY 6 – 8, 2012**

**Crawfordville, Florida**

**The Inn at Wildwood**

**Save the Date - Details to follow later**

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### **GULF STATES SUMMER FORAY**

**JULY 8–10, 2011 HILLSDALE MS**

Escaping from the drought conditions in Texas and other parts of the Gulf Coast, we met at King's Arrow Ranch Inn, at Hillsdale MS. We did not have our traditional Friday evening Shrimp Boil at poolside because of low attendance and lack of our usual “boiler chef”, so we dined in the Inn restaurant.

Our guest Mycologist was Andrew Methven of Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL, an expert on the genus *Lactarius*. He presented on “Sharing the Same Name: North American and European Species of *Lactarius*”. He discussed the problems caused by having European names on American species, and that most of those American species would need to be renamed. This is a result of the modern method of comparing the DNA of species.

This summer we hosted Dr. Methven's graduate student, Gerald (Gerry) Presley. Gerry gave a very interesting presentation on “Biodegradation of Atrazine by Fungi”. Atrazine is primarily an herbicide commonly used to control weeds. Many fungal species are being screened to see which ones best degrades Atrazine. We thank Andy and Gerry for their participation and great talks!

On Saturday morning we divided into two groups. One group forayed first at the Red Creek WMA at Ramsey Springs, and later, joined the other group at the Pascagoula River WMA, where the foray sites were Dacy Lake, Big Lake, and Davis Dead Lake. All sites had a good sampling of fungi.

Returning to the Inn, Phillip and Alexandria prepared some of the day's edible finds for us to sample while the mycologists quickly sorted and identified the 68 species collected. Interesting species collected include the rare *Amanita hesleri*, *Amanita levistriata*, newly described *Cantherellus lewisii*, a tropical asco recently reported from the US for the first time *Hypocrea peltata*, and an unusual *Paxillus* fruiting on a cypress log.

Members attending were Steve Harsch, Jay Justice, David & Patricia Lewis, Therese Martin, Ingrid Arce & Juan Luis Mata & children, Ben Rauch, Paul & Patch Scott, Phillip & Alexandria Tussing, and Don Ward. Thanks to Alexandria, Ben, Don, Patch, Paul, Phillip and everyone who helped make the meeting a success.

### **GSMS Summer Foray 2011 species list**

*Agrocybe retigera* (Spegazzini) Singer

*Amanita brunnescens* Atkinson var. *brunnescens*

*Amanita flavorubescens* Atkinson

*Amanita hesleri* Bas.

*Amanita levistriata* Jenkins

*Amanita rubescens* (Pers.: Fr.) S.F. Gray

*Anthracophyllum lateritium* (Burk. & Curt.) Sing.

*Boletus auripes* Pk.

*Boletus innixus* Frost

*Boletus lewisii* (Singer) A.E. Bessette, W.C. Roody & A.R. Bessette

*Boletus rubellus* Kromb.

*Boletus subglabripes* Pk.

*Calocera cornea* (Fr.) Loudon

*Cantharellus lateritius* (Berk.) Singer

*Cantharellus lewisii* Buyck & V. Hofst.

*Chlorophyllum molybdites* (Meyer: Fr.) Mass.

*Crepidotus crocophyllus* (Berk.) Sacc.

*Gymnopilus liquiritiae* (Pers.: Fr.) Karst.

*Gymnopilus* species

*Gymnopus iocephalus* (Berk. & Curtis) Halling

*Hydnopolyporus fimbriatus* (Fr.) Reid.

*Hypocrea citrina* (Pers.) Fr.

*Hypocrea peltata* (Jungh.) Sacc.

*Hypomyces hyalinus* (Schwein.) Tul. & C. Tul.

*Lactarius glaucescens* Crossland

*Lactarius peckii* (Burlingham) Sacc.

*Lactarius subpalustris* Hesler & A. H. S

*Lactarius subvellerus* Pk. var. *subdistans* Hesler & Smith

*Lactarius subvernalis* var. *cokeri* Smith & Hesler

*Leccinum rugosiceps* (Pk.) Sing.

*Lentinula raphanica* (Murr.) Mata & R.H. Petersen

*Lentinus crinitus* (L.:Fr.) Fr.

*Lentinus trigrinus* (Bull.) Fr.

*Leucocoprinus cepistipes* (Sow.) Pat.  
*Leucocoprinus fragillissimus* (B. & C.) Pat.  
*Marasmius rotula* (Scop.: Fr.) Fr.  
*Microporellus obovatus* (Jungh) Ryv.  
*Neolentinus lepideus* (Fr.) Redhead & Ginns  
*Nidularia pulvinata* (Schw.) Fr.  
*Paxillus cfr. panuoides* (Fr.: Fr.) Fr. on cypress log  
*Phaeolus schweinitzii* (Fr.) Pat.  
*Phellinus gilvus* (Schw.) Pat.  
*Pholiota vernalis* (Sacc.) Smith & Hesler  
*Physalacria inflata* (Schwein.) Pk.  
*Pluteus pellitus* (Pers.) P. Kumm.  
*Podoscypha ravenellii* (Berk. & Curt.) Pat.  
*Russula compacta* Frost  
*Russula earlii* Pk.  
*Russula eccentrica* Pk.  
*Russula ludoviciana* Shaffer  
*Russula subgraminicolor* Murr.  
*Simocybe centunculus* (Fr.) P. Karst.  
*Sparassis spathulata* (Schw.: Fr.) Fr.  
*Steccherinum pulcherrimum* (B&C) Banker  
*Strobilomyces confusus* Singer  
*Strobilomyces dryophila* Cibula & Weber  
*Trametes menziesii* (Berk.) Ryvarden  
*Trichaptum biforme* (Fr. in Kl.) Ryv.  
*Tricholomopsis decora* (Fr.) Sing.  
*Tricholomopsis rutilans* (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Singer  
*Tylopilus alboater* (Schw.) Murrill  
*Tylopilus ballouii* (Pk.) Singer  
*Tylopilus sordidus* (Frost) Smith & Thiers  
*Tyromyces chioneus* (Fr.) Karst.  
*Xanthoconium affine* var. *affine* (Pk.) Singer  
*Xylocoremium flabelliforme* (Schwein.) J.D. Rogers  
**SLIME MOLDS**  
*Fuligo septica* (L.) Wiggers  
*Hemitrichia calyculata* (Speg.) Farr  
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**GSMS BIG THICKET MUSHROOM WALK  
IN TEXAS - JUNE 11, 2011**

A dedicated group of mushroomers braved the summer heat and drought conditions of southeast Texas to visit the Cypress Swamp on Teel Road in the Lance Rosier Unit of the Big Thicket National Preserve (BTNP). The Preserve is located in Saratoga TX just NW of Beaumont. We hoped to collect and record new species for the Preserve, and thereby add to the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) species list. But thanks to the lack of rain, only two species of fleshy fungi were found. David Lewis states that this is the lowest count of fungi he has seen in the BTNP on a Mushroom Walk in 40 years. We thank John Soileau and Brooks and Bernadine Young for assisting with the Walk. Attending were members David & Patricia Lewis, Warren Pruess, John Soileau, and Brooks & Bernadine Young, and 15 non-members.

**SPECIES COLLECTED**

*Lentinus tigrinus,*      *Pluteus petasatus*  
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**GSMS MOREL WALK IN TUNICA HILLS LA  
MARCH 19, 2011**

Thanks to Phillip and Alexandra Tussing for leading this Walk, driving from near Houston, to fill in for David Fuller. The walk was attended by nine members. A dozen morels were found, as well as three species of fungi.

**MOREL WALK SPECIES LIST**

*Geastrum* sp.  
*Linderia columnatus*  
*Morchella esculenta*  
*Russula appalachiensis*  
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**THE NAMA ENDOWMENT FUND**

The NAMA Endowment fund was began to generate scholarship support for deserving mycology students, and the goal is to be able to provide \$2,000 yearly. NAMA is accepting pledges and checks payable to NAMA with "Endowment Fund" noted at the bottom. Mail any contributions to Judith McCandless, NAMA Treasurer, 330 Wildwood Place, Louisville, KY 40205-2523. Donations are fully tax-deductible.  
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**A LETTER FROM AN OLD FRIEND AND FOUNDING MEMBER**

Do you remember Dr. Anna Pleasonton, from New Orleans, a retired professor, who was very faithful in attending all our forays, until it became difficult for her to arrange transportation? She moved to Peru to be near her sister several years ago, and sends an email occasionally. Having available space, we show the one received a day or two ago. She has invited everyone to visit her many times. If you wish to contact her, her email is annapleasanton (@) hotmail.com

Dear friends

Time passes, and I regret hearing so little about your lives, though I too fail to write often. I hope all is well with you. We read and hear about all the disasters which have hit the us and the rest of the world, and hope they have passed you by. I am so glad NO has escaped any hurricane.

It has been a strange winter here, with more humidity than usual, frequent drizzle that could be seen (called 'rain' here) and wet streets at night. It does not go below 15 C (about 55 F), but rarely above it either. In the last few days, however, spring may be coming in, we have had some sunshine during the day, and even one morning, sunshine rare enough at the moment that everyone comments about it! Of course, when you leave Lima and move in any of the directions of the compass, you will end up in sun, warm during the day, and cold at night. I feel extremely cold and wear thermal underwear and several sweaters, but it is not really that cold, and as it is very humid, our part of the city is very green and pretty, as usual. Not so, in the poor neighborhoods which have grown up along the hills surrounding Lima (which has grown by several millions in the last 10 years)— usually by organized invasions, organized by unsavory characters who plan the invasion, pass the word and sell small plots to the very poor who have nowhere else to live, and hire thugs to protect the invasion when it takes place at a specially planned time. The sellers usually get away with it since it would take an army to dislodge the people once they have rushed in and paid their sum for the right to claim a small piece of land. There, they start putting up huts with reed mats to ensure their place, and in time, start building one wall at a time. Later, (usually years), they start paying monthly sums to the government (or to someone in special place of power) and after a while the area might get water and electricity, though they pay individually for it as well. The streets may also take years. There people

struggle to just survive and do not have green spaces, nor do they invest in greenery. Our maid Dadi, who lives in such an area, has become interested, after taking care of our window boxes, and she keeps taking pieces of plants home to plant in empty containers. Good or bad, they attract the neighbors, and when the plants take, they are often stolen. I am slowly providing sweet smelling jasmine to her neighborhood, not by my will, nor hers, but she keeps taking and planting clippings. It grows extremely well in my window box, perfumes our building at night, and needs frequent cutting back. Apparently people in her very poor and dismal neighborhood also notice the smell and the plant.

the new government of Ollanta Humala is taking hold, though I do not understand what it is doing. The paper articles are totally confusing, and reflect either very poor writing or the writers' confusion. The three stations which discussed the news on the radio seem to have dropped news other than murders and accidents. Is all this happenstance, or a concerted act? The new government's main stated focus is inclusion, trying to bring the 40% or so extremely poor into the mainstream. Yesterday, congress passed a regulation? which will start paying 250 soles a month to the very poor destitute elderly in 5 provinces. I do not know how they will be chosen. I spend more than that every time I go to the supermarket or to the fruit market. The other main issues are security – inadequate with underpaid police eager for bribes, corrupt judges, large numbers of unemployed thugs..., and traffic, which is a terrible mess, with very high mortality and accident rates, twice as many unregulated bus lines as needed (mostly large vans, competing with each other) and as many illegal unregistered taxis as legal ones..

Other big topic of discussion: under present law, legislators cannot be sued or punished. What to do when you find out your new legislator, who just took the oath of office, either lied on his/her vita or else is engaged in shady business, with even a past conviction he forgot to mention. Will congress decide to lift their immunity? Two specially, one who owns (or says he no longer owns but his wife still collects the rents) a house of prostitution which uses underage girls (and who forgot to mention that he had been convicted for proxenetism?(bad morals), the another assigned to the special committee overlooking the environment..., who rents mining sites in protected areas to illegal miners and collects his fees in gold. They were sworn in, will they be punished, except for maybe losing their seat on their selected committee)?. At present, the most that can happen to them is to be put on a 120 penalty without pay. Another funny affair: there was a bomb alert on the 10 year anniversary of a very destructive explosive action which killed over a hundred people. Of course, the building was emptied,, the police searched everything, life in the area was disrupted for hours... Since then, there have been several other copy cat4 calls, one which closed the airport for several hours, two which emptied universities. They turned out to be hoaxes. Several of the culprits were found. But there is no law against such actions! What to do, beyond demand an apology? The names were not even released since such hoaxes are not listed as criminal actions.

I had some guests this winter. First, two very nice german boys, one a nephew of a friend, who came to roam through Peru for 5 weeks. Their first activity here was to walk down to the pacific ocean, which they did twice in their 3 days in Lima . They visited macchu picchu and the jungle, climbed a mountain – I found out their backpack was mostly climbing equipment rather than clothes - covered a lot of ground by bus, and overall said they had a wonderful time. Then a family of five, two parents, 3 kids ages 11 to 15, from Germany as well, who were coming to work as volunteers in a hospital built

by a religious organization up in the cuzco province, for a period of 3 years. They brought as much luggage as they were allowed by the airlines, plus a musical instrument apiece, and my small apartment was covered by luggage from wall to wall. I moved over to my sister's, they organized themselves in the 3 beds and on the floor among suitcases. They had to stay a few days to get their paperwork started. They arrived on a Friday. On Saturday and Sunday, they too, walked to the beach, and the children even got wet. Apparently seeing the pacific is a huge deal. They wanted to go back to the beach after their appointments at the government offices on Monday and tuesday, but could not because, and that is a funny story, I guess: I had ordered their bus tickets for them (they still lack Spanish) by phone, as is done here, and the company said they would send one of their motocyclists to deliver the tickets and pick up payment – also the usual way. However, the person in whose name the ticket and payment were had to be here in person, with all pertinent documents. The first delivery was scheduled from 6 to 8 pm, and we waited. The man did not come. I called. After some delay, the bus company said they could not reach him, he would come the next day. The next day, the guests waited, no tickets. I called, was put on hold forever, called again, was promised a call back... this went on most of the day. The problem: the bus line had 'lost' their 'motorizado', could not find him... and the tickets were already made up in Christian's name and could not be reissued. Finally, by early evening, it was agreed they would go to the station a little before the appointed departure time and see a certain lady who would see that they got their seats! I saw them off in a taxi van I had ordered, in which their luggage barely fit, and since they did not come back later, I assumed they got on their bus, for their 18 hour ride! I do not know if the 'motorizado' was ever found.

It has been a difficult winter for me. First my sister was quite sick, hospitalized nearly a month and operated upon (removal of gallbladder) and since she was so hooked up with tubes, someone had to stay with her; it was me during the daytime, her daughter at night. She is doing well now. Then I caught the flu and was miserable for a good while, and when that was over and I was starting with my usual activities, something gave way in one knee and I was fairly immobilized. I was planning to move over to Eva's anyway while the german family was here, so did so and stayed there to be looked after. The knee is nearly back to normal, but I am still leery about stairs, walking... thank god for the kindle (ebook reader) and also for the (rather poor) single lending library belonging to the peruvian britanic organization. Also, thank god for a sister in the building, and for maids and a driver! And the money to afford them!

The food fest called Mistura, featuring Peruvian cuisine in its various forms, from expensive restaurants to sellers from carts, has just run 10 days, to an attendance of over 400,000. A smashing success according to the news. I did not go (painful knee) but am not sorry, apparently the lines were humongous. It is its fourth year, and it will continue to grow – if they can find a larger place to hold it – I guess it is our version of jazz fest. Always in September. there was a market I was sorry to miss, it had a lot of fruits we are not familiar with, from the sierra and from the jungle, along with a huge variety of potatoes, I do not know how many of the 150 varieties were sold. It is good because it makes people aware of the riches of the country and might help the poor peasants grow revenue producing crops other than coca. Eradicating the coca crops without offering another way of making a living is counter productive and wrong. That's about all for the moment. If you are interested in other details, feel free to ask. And tell me more about your lives- love to all, anna  
Love to all of you, anna