NEBC 2018 Distinguished Speaker

“New England Lichens: Leveraging Past Riches to Understand the Present and Future”
By
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PLEASE READ (LOTS of INFO and REMINDERS):

1) JAMES LENDEMER’s ABSTRACT: Lichens are charismatic and ecologically important fungi that form symbioses with algae and cyanobacteria for the purpose of obtaining nutrition. They are particularly diverse in northeastern North America, where well over a thousand species occur from the dunes of Cape Cod, to the fog-soaked forests of Acadia, and the treeless summits of the White Mountains. The Northeast is also where the field got its start in North America; Edward Tuckerman, the father of American lichenology was a founding member of the Natural History Society of Boston and worked at Amherst College. I will present an overview of the wealth of knowledge pertaining to lichens of the Northeast that has accumulated in the century and a half since Tuckerman's time. I will highlight how these data can be leveraged to understand our current biota and how it may change in the future. Further, I will outline specific avenues for future investigation, drawing on comparisons to other organismal groups, and the results of continuing on-the-ground research.

2) SILENT AUCTION FOR LICHENS OF NORTH AMERICA BOOK: An NEBC member has donated a copy of Brodo et al. *Lichens of North America* to benefit our organization, and thus we will have a silent auction at the April 6th meeting for this ~ 9 pound book. Attendees interested in the book will submit secret bids. The highest bidder must be prepared to pay with check or cash in order to take the book home. More info at link above and on NEBC Home Page
3) **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 RECIPIENTS OF LES MEHRHOFF BOTANICAL RESEARCH FUNDS:**
- **Peter Grima** for his project titled "Investigating the putative hybrid *Carex baileyi x Carex lurida*"
- **Matt Peters** for his project titled "Exploring the eastern alpine: Botanical inventory in Uapishka (Les Monts Groulx), Quebec"
- **Amanda Weise** for her project titled "A comparison of survey methods for *Pinguicula vulgaris*: Traditional survey methods vs. lightweight unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, or drones)"

4) **COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT:** The NEBC Council holds its’ Annual Meeting in April after the new Council election. At that time, the members on all NEBC Committees are reviewed and revised. Volunteers are particularly needed for these committees, for which a description can be found on the What's New webpage: Elizabeth Jean Farnsworth Recognition Committee, Fernald Award Committee, Field Trip Committee, Investments & Finance Committee, Refreshment Committee, Website and Social Media Committee. If you have an interest in or want to learn more about these committees, please email President@rhodora.org.

5) **MANAGING EDITOR OF RHODORA POSITION:** NEBC is reviewing applications for a new Managing Editor for Rhodora, our peer-reviewed journal. Duties, qualifications, and application procedure are described here. Please post this flyer or forward it to anyone that may be interested in the position. If you have any questions, please contact NEBC President Brett Trowbridge at President@Rhodora.org.

6) **NEXT NEBC MEETING AT GARDEN-IN-THE-WOODS:** On 4 May 2018, Dr. Robert Bertin, Anthony and Renee Marlon Professor in the Sciences, Biology Department, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, will speak on “Patterns and Changes in the Flora of Franklin County, Massachusetts.” As in past years, the May meeting will be held at the Education Building at Garden in the Woods, Framingham, MA.

7) **SAVE THE DATES FOR JUNE “AWAY” MEETING, JUNE 1-2:** NEBC is planning an Away Meeting for Friday, June 1st and Saturday, June 2nd in western Massachusetts. Field trips are being planned for both Friday and Saturday to botanical hotspots around the area. On Friday afternoon-evening, there will be a reception and open house at the Smith College Botanic Garden in Northampton, MA, from 4-6 PM, followed by a lecture by Dr. Gretel Clark on assisted migration.

8) **VIDEOS OF PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see Past Meetings for videos of past lectures, including Andrew Leslie’s March presentation. No password required for access to videos.

9) **MEMBER SURVEY:** A reminder to complete NEBC online survey by April 17 (Tax Day) please by following this link: NEBC Member Online Survey
10) **NONVASCULAR HERBARIUM WORK DATES:** If you would like to help Elizabeth Kneiper and the Nonvascular Herbarium Committee with many tasks related to the NEBC collection, please contact her at Ekneiper@aol.com. Meet in the basement of the Farlow Herbarium, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Upcoming work dates are on Wednesday’s and Saturday’s. Please see the What’s New page for details.

11) **EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS & NEBC STIPENDS:** Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, ME, is again offering NEBC members a 20% discount for the 2018 Workshops and Seminars. Also, NEBC will give a stipend of $150 towards costs for the first 10 NEBC members who register for a summer botany course. Contact John Burns at nebc@rhodora.org for details. [Eagle Hill 2018 calendar](#).

12) **REQUESTING NEBC PRESENCE AND ASSISTANCE AT NORTHEAST NATURAL HISTORY CONFERENCE:** At the 2018 conference organized by Eagle Hill Institute at Hotel Burlington Conference Center, Burlington, VT, on April 13-15, NEBC members have organized a presentation session and will staff a table in the exhibit area. **NEBC members who will be attending the conference and would like to help staff our table for half a day, may reply to NEBC Association Manager: John Burns nebc@rhodora.org and request that 50% of their registration be covered by NEBC (first come, first serve upon approval).** In addition to submitting presentation abstracts, NEBC members may also propose workshops, field trips, and other events until 26 February 2018. For full details about the conference and registration: [2018 Northeast Natural History Conference](#) Discounted registration ends 12 March 2018.

13) **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE PAST DUE:** Renew Your NEBC Membership for 2018 [Here](#).

14) **PARKING LOCATION:** From 5 PM-10 PM, our designated FREE parking lot is the 52 Oxford St. Garage, near the intersection of Everett St. and Oxford St. Parking in any other lot will likely lead to towing. Please find a map showing the Oxford Garage (52OX) at the following link: [Interactive Harvard University Map](#).

15) **EARLIER ARRIVALS:** For those arriving before 5 PM, visitor permits ($17.00/day) are available from Harvard Parking Service at Harvard Campus Service Center, 8th floor, Holyoke Building, 1350 Massachusetts Ave. (8AM-5PM) and on-line at [Visitor Parking Permit](#). Select OEB/MCZ/HUH for building and 2017 for the department code. License plate number needed for transaction. Print pass and display on dash. For more information, Parking Services may be contacted at 617-495-3772 or [parking@harvard.edu](mailto:parking@harvard.edu). [AN ALTERNATIVE: Some members park at Alewife T station and ride the red line train to the Harvard Square T stop.]

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The newly elected Council will meet 3:15–5 PM in the meeting room near Haller Lecture Hall.