

From the Editor

McIlvainea is back! On hiatus since the last issue appeared in 2001, *McIlvainea* returns to take its place as the repository for amateur—as well as professional—contributions to the field of Mycology in North America.

Charles McIlvaine was a celebrated amateur mycologist of the 19th century. Although it is likely that he is best known for his personal investigations into the edibility of just about every wild mushroom out there (concluding that stink horn “eggs” were “an agreeable food!”), Mr. McIlvaine put together the first good field guide to North American mushrooms that was user-friendly to amateurs. In the spirit of Mr. McIlvaine—who opens his most famous book *One Thousand American Fungi* with the quote “Birds, flowers, insects, stones delight the observant. Why not toadstools? A tramp after them is absorbing, study of them interesting, and eating of them health-giving and supremely satisfying . . .”—*McIlvainea* strives to advance the field of Mycology by publishing scholarly contributions that may not have been well suited to constraints of other research journals in the field (as examples, the Mycological Society of America’s *Mycologia* or the British Mycological Society’s *Mycological Research*). Since its inception in 1972, *McIlvainea* has published articles of importance to both amateur and professional mycologists, including review articles, taxonomic keys, and papers describing methodologies. On occasion, articles were published from authors overseas. And so in 2001 the news that *McIlvainea* had ceased publication was greeted with much disappointment. Of course, similar publications exist abroad (*Field Mycology* and *The Mycologist* of Great Britain come to mind), but a huge void was left for North America.

Having enjoyed my first three years as editor of *The Mycophile* (has it been that long?), I volunteered to take over as new editor of *McIlvainea*. Of course, it’s been a bit tough trying to find authors willing to submit manuscripts to a “new” journal. But as you will see, several tremendous papers have been put together for this issue. I am hopeful that with the return of the quality publication that it once was, authors will enthu-

siastically submit their reports to *McIlvainea*. I would also like to invite all who previously submitted manuscripts but never saw them appear in print (due to the journal’s demise) to kindly re-send them to me for immediate consideration. Furthermore, I would especially like to invite authors of works in progress and students to submit manuscripts to *McIlvainea*. I know of no better venue in print for discussing your work. Instructions for Authors can be found at the end of this issue, and they are straightforward; authors are asked to follow them closely as that will make my job easier and expedite the appearance of your work in print.

Within this issue of the “renewed” *McIlvainea*, I know you will enjoy several new articles, as well as a trip down memory lane. Readers will no doubt find it interesting to see the cover of the first *McIlvainea*, the first “issue” of what became *The Mycophile*, and a historical perspective on how the North American Mycological Association came to be. Thanks to Executive Secretary Judy Roger for compiling these historical pieces.

I sincerely hope that everyone enjoys the new *McIlvainea*, and I encourage you to send me feedback, good or bad. I would like to personally thank Judith Caulfield, Production Editor, for her hard work in getting *McIlvainea* back up and running. In addition to being the main reason that every issue of *The Mycophile* looks so good, she also is responsible for the look of *McIlvainea*!

—Britt A. Bunyard, Ph.D.

