

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
200 Second Avenue North Seattle, WA 98109
November 1972 Number 86



Ask the Old Farmer: What is the origin of the old adage, "potluck"? L. W., Cleveland. Originally European, probably French, indicating a meal unprepared for guests, who would be served from the soup pot, which was kept warm at all times. As everything edible was chucked into the pot, there was some luck involved when bailing out a bowlful.

The Seattle Times
Sun. 10/1/72

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The attendance at the Annual Exhibit dropped considerably this year. Why? I have heard all kinds of reasons from the members, but it is difficult to say what is the real one. Some say it was because hunting season opened at the same time, others say it was because of football and/or the World Series, or simply that the weather was too nice and people wanted to do outdoor things that weekend. Probably it was a combination of all of these along with others we haven't thought of.

Those that did attend the Exhibit were not crowded together; there was plenty of room to look over the displays without having to peek over someone's shoulder; their questions could be asked without waiting in line.

Those that did attend got much more out of it than before, I am sure, and that should be our goal. The success of the show should not be measured solely by the number of people who pass through the gate.

Howard Melsen, President

daniel e stuntz foray !!

The Second Annual Daniel E. Stuntz Mycological Foray was held at the Cispus Center for Environmental Education near Randle, Wash., October 20-22. This is also the second annual Daniel Stuntz Foray of this year! We always knew our Best Friend rated more than one year a year anyway.

Multitudes of National Mycological Monuments graced the Foray, including our Dr. Stuntz of course, Dr. Alexander Smith and his wife Helen, Dr. Edmund Tylutki, Dr. Harry Thiers, Dr. David Hosford, and several important ones we can't remember.

On Friday evening Dr. Stuntz lectured the assemblage on Inocybes and showed slides. Dr. Smith spoke (also with slides) on Saturday evening regarding Endemic Mushrooms of the Northwest.

The mushroom hunting was surprisingly good considering the dry season. Finds included a 26 pound clump of *Lyophyllum multiceps* found by Dr. Smith who is allergic to mushrooms, the first recorded collection of *Collybia oregonensis* in Washington, and the world's smallest *Russula* (1/4" tall, cap 3/16" in diameter) found by Ben Woo, who is a National Monument, by the way.

Hooray for Dr. Stuntz! Maybe there's time for a Third Annual Foray this December.

membership meeting

NOTE: Planning Committee meets 6:45 before regular meeting Nov. 13. Science Center Conf. Room.

Monday, November 13, 8 pm, Eames Theatre, Pacific Science Center.

A two-part extravaganza will be presented featuring, as part one, Helen Wasson (who is also, incidentally, our able Treasurer) giving a talk, illustrated with slides, on "Mushrooms for Beginners and How to Learn Them." The second part of the extravaganza will be a secret until Nov. 13.

THE SHOW SHOWING

Well, nobody is really quite sure about what happened at the show because they're still recovering from it. A fuller report may appear later. For those discriminating souls that attended, 81 genera were displayed, with a total of 322 species. The 3 leading genera were Cortinarius (30 species, 59 total mushrooms), Suillus (11 species, 40 total), and Lactarius (11 species, 22 total).

Attending the show were Dr. Edmund E. Tylutki, Dr. Alexander Smith, Dr. Bandoni, Dr. David Hosford, and Kit Scates. Kit worked throughout the show identifying the pesky Boletes and Suilluses. Thank you, Kit. A special thank you, too, to the wonderful Science Center Guards, especially Mr. Cinema, who really went out of their way to help us.



It is impossible for us to discuss (or put on) a mushroom exhibit without our Dr. Stuntz. He was present from morning to evening, before, during, and after, identifying mushrooms and patiently answering the same questions that he has probably been asked a million times, not to mention all the new ones that people think up. Thank you, Dr. Stuntz.

And now a word from Margaret Dilly who did a fine job as chairman (person?) of the Arrangement Committee; "Personal thanks for the tremendous cooperation and help of all the society members who helped to make this year's display a real success. This includes all those wonderful people who gathered moss and mushrooms as well as those who identified, arranged, labeled, carried, and the numerous other duties it took to launch our show on time once again. You all did a superb job. Many thanks again."

Margaret Dilly



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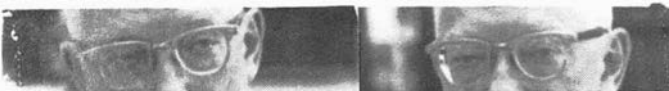
TRUSTEES Michel Allain, Scott Chilton, Dina Chybinski, Claude Dilly, Milton Grout, James M. Hara, Don Peterson, Dee Poole, Charles Proctor, Isabelle Waite, and Robert W. Ramsey (Immediate Past President)

ALTERNATES Cliff Carpetner, Virginia Kessner, Charles Kessner.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

CALENDAR

- | | | |
|----------|---|---|
| *Nov. 13 | Monday 6:45 pm 8:00 pm | Planning Committee* MEMBERSHIP MEETING |
| Nov. 17 | Friday 10:00 am | Ramble in Seward Park |
| Nov. 20 | Monday 8:00 pm | Board meeting |
| Nov. 24 | The TRUE deadline for Sporeprints news. Mail to 4029 E. Madison, Seattle WA 98102. | |
| Dec. 11 | Monday 8:00 pm | Membership meeting |
| Mar. 31 | Annual Survivors' Banquet | |



WEEKDAY RAMBLE (BY POPULAR DEMAND) (NOV. 17, FRI.)

A 3-mile ramble through virgin and mushroomy forests of Seward Park, led by park denizen Joe Chybinski. A no-expert do-it-yourself identification over a sack lunch (if you remember to bring yours) will be featured after the trek. At Seward Park drive to the left uphill, take right fork and park at picnic area parking. Meet at covered cook-shack at 10 am. This is not a pothunt, but a learning experience.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Sept. 23/24 Soda Springs - by Al and Geneva Hutchison

"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Forty-five PSMS members and friends braved Chinook Pass in the face of an early, early snowfall to sign in at Soda Springs. Howard and Fay Melsen had a very hairy experience when their car and trailer skidded off the highway. They had to wait until something like 2:30 am before a tow truck came to pull them out. A cold miserable wait I am sure, and expensive! Several of us found it necessary to turn around Friday night and stay at either Silver Springs or the Dalles Forest Camps. In spite of the snow and cold weather, we had thirty staying for the usual wonderful potluck Saturday night.

113 species of mushrooms were brought in. Those collected in quantity included *Hericium*, *Boletus cavipes* (I think), *Clavaria*, white and yellow chantarelles, and the big surprise—*Armillaria ponderosa*. None of the group remembered finding those rare things in this area before.

Jim and Ethel Bennett were the leaders assisted by Jennie and Dave Schmitt, Al and Geneva Hutchison, and Bill and Pauline Pollard.

Special thanks to two couples for sharing mushroom "spots" with us. Good spots are usually very carefully kept a big secret from others, but both Pollards and Kessners have made it possible for my husband and I to gather white and yellow chantarelles because they told us exactly where to go. (This happens only to those who lead or assist. Keep it in mind for the next group of field trips. Ed.) Thanks to you both for this magnanimous attitude!

Sept. 30/Oct. 1 Crystal Springs - by Helen and Fred Wasson

Thirty-five families signed the register. Sixty-two signed in for one of our now famous potlucks. The weather cooperated with us for which we were grateful, as the shelter was not too large and we could eat in the open with comfort.

The mushrooms were obliging also, with 129 species being identified by our able and willing identifiers: Charles Volz, Paul Nestell, and Brian Luther. John and Mary Crosetto of Cle Elum dropped in and brought with them one of the largest *Amanita muscaria* specimens that many of us had ever seen. The cap was fully 12" across and it was at least that tall.

Pauline Pollard had bad luck just before coming home, by falling and breaking her ankle, but I am sure it will take more than this to keep her down and away from the next field trip. (This unfortunate accident happened, we fear, because Pauline couldn't see over the shirt-full-of-*Hericium* she was carrying at the time. Some people will do anything for mushrooms. Ed.)



Left to right: Howard Melsen, Dr. Robert J. Bandoni, and Charles Volz disporting themselves at the experimental forest in British Columbia, or, rather, before the experimental forest. Photo by Roger and Joy Spurr.

Oct. 7/8/9 Golden Ears - by Martin Hansen

This is a beautiful park and Lake Alouette is truly an unspoiled lake; there are no campsites on the lake itself.

Everything did not go as planned on this trip but I think everyone had a good time.

The mushrooms were a little scarce; we had 124 species identified, but not too many for the pot. There were 115 people who signed the register and 71 joined for the potluck. The weather was like summer. The evenings were spent by a bonfire and Charles Volz gave us several old-time tunes on his bouzouki, a Greek stringed instrument that originate in medieval time.

Thanks to Dr. and Marjorie Asano for a nice trip and to Dr. Bandoni for taking part in this.

BOARD NOTES--REDUCED

The word is this: Only THREE (3) designs have been submitted for PSMS shoulder patches and/or pins. You still have time. As G.B. Shaw said (more or less), See to it that you get what you like or you will be forced to like what you get. Submit now. Deadline is Nov. 20. Send to PSMS, 200 Second Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

Hildah Nolan and Providence Hospital have both sent letters of gratitude to PSMS for contributions made by PSMS as a group and as individuals to Providence Hospital in commemoration of Ralph Nolan.

Despite the lower attendance, financially the Exhibit was still in the black. Dinna fash yourself the noc.

This didn't happen at the Board, but nevertheless represents a rare honor. Helen Hewitt, our faithful Secretary has been appointed Director, District 7, for the National Association of Parliamentarians. This includes Washington, Idaho, B.C., Oregon, and Wyoming, and makes Helen a member of the National Board of Directors. Gosh. Hope you still have time for us, Helen, and congratulations.

The North American Mycological Association held its annual Mushroom Foray at Priest Lake, Idaho, Sept. 29-30, and Oct. 1, 1972. PSMS was very well represented--between 20 and 25 members attended the three day foray. Reynaldine Sandahl, of Olympia, received first place for the best sequence of photos showing development of Ganoderma tsugae, and an honorable mention for some of her beautiful photos of mushrooms. Marcella Pearsall, McCleary, won the grand prize for a photograph of Polyporus sulfureus. Dr. Alexander Smith was the final authority on all identifications. 340 specimens were recorded as being gathered in the area.



Harley Perkins took the picture of this superior Sparassis. Sparassises are notoriously fidgety before cameras, as we all know.

A TRULY SUPERIOR SPARASSIS

by Bill

The mycologists at the Dalles outing were pleasantly surprized and amazed when two of our newer members, Nader Spahi and his wife Binki, arrived at our identification table with the biggest Sparassis radicata that has ever been seen at any of our outings--imagine 11"x20"x20" and an estimated weight of from 15 to 45 (??) pounds.

The Spahis were accompanied by their guests André Airut and his wife Nicole. André was large, strong, and good looking, and carried the huge mushroom by brute strength. Said guests are from Egypt, and had never seen a forest, stream, mountain, or Sparassis before, but after wrestling the giant, André notified one and all that he hoped to convince Jennie Schmitt to accept his \$10 and application.

The Spahis surprized one and all by attacking their beautiful monster with the biggest knife in camp and (believe it or not), Binki proceeded to share half of it with us innocent bystanders.

(Bill, in case you haven't guessed, is Bill Pollard, who feels that PSMS should be on a first name basis. No vivid writing there, Bill.)



Within one of the most populous, showy, and--ordinarily--harmless of fungus families, a poisonous species has recently been reported from Poland. Several deaths among mushroom pickers baffled researchers because of the long latency period: 3 to 19 days must elapse before the first symptom--burning thirst--appears.

This killer mushroom, which has been found in our area, is distinctively colored when young. However, the poisoner (#2) and several harmless members of the same genus and subgroup (#1) may look dangerously alike in maturity when their caps are weathered and their gills are stained rusty brown by the spores. Not noted for tastiness anyhow, all yellow-stemmed, rusty-gilled mushrooms with silky redbrown or tawny caps should be avoided by pot-hunters. Use PSMS class key to learn the name of the genus, which is characterized by a chunky fibrous central stipe, rusty brown spores, and a filmy cobweb veil whose frail remnants on the stipe are not strictly considered an annulus.

though rarely choice--eating.
bulb at the base, may still be considered safe--
sticky, slimy caps, whether or not they have a
Note to incorrectible mycophagists: Cortinarius with
125.
Stuntz. See also The Savory Wild Mushroom, page
had too much sun or been water-soaked," says Dr.
that looks like a discolored cinnamonus that's
when wet. "The cap is often a peculiar orange tan
Stipe: 1"-2" long, 1/4" thick. Flesh: chestnut brown.
tawny when young, becoming rust-brown from spores.
darker--red-brown to liver-brown, fibrillose. Gills:
with russet to tawny margin becoming uniformly
Cap: 3/4" to 2" wide, chestnut brown at center
#2 Cortinarius orellanus. Poison.
All safe to eat.
low when young, but rusty brown gills in maturity).
cap, gills, and stem in some shade of brassy yellow
malleolus, and croceofolius. (All three have
stipe when young). Also Cortinarius cinnamonus,
tawny (Maroon/red-brown cap, red gills, yellow
Answer: #1 Cortinarius phoenicis var. occident-