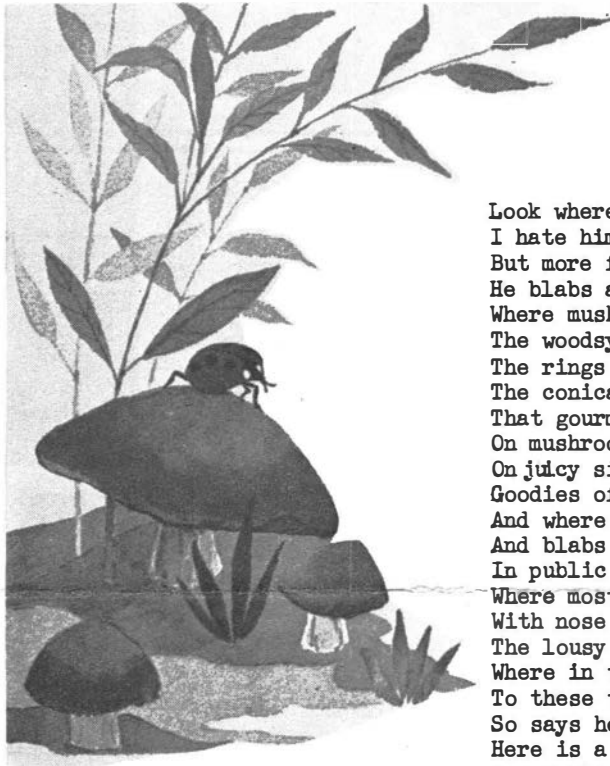


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
200 Second Avenue North Seattle WA 98109
January 1973 Number 88



To start the new year we are privileged to have the poem Angelo Pellegrini presented to us at the last Survivors' Banquet. Dr. Pellegrini is an author, gourmet, English Professor at the University of Washington; but to us, he is the Extraordinary Mushroom Stalker. Listen:

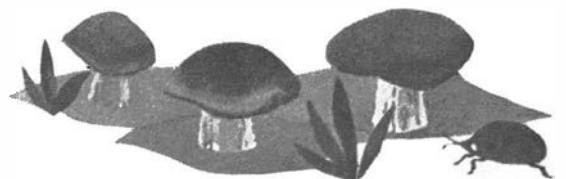
Look where he comes, the Bloody Villain
I hate him for he is a poacher
But more for that's in low simplicity
He blabs about the Sacred Grove
Where mushrooms thrive—the plump Boletes
The woody Chantarelles, the savory Champignons
The rings of fairy and purple Russulas
The conical Morels that come when tulips bloom
That gourmets like myself may gorge
On mushroom soups and grow rotund and plump
On juicy sirloins crowned with the fungoid
Goodies of the Sacred Grove—Of these
And where they grow the Bloody Villain blabs
And blabs and blabs, in taverns and in Church
In public squares, piazzas, and malls
Where most do congregate, like hungry wolves,
With nose to the wind and lean ears cocked,
The lousy greedy Gluttons who would know
Where in the vast Northwest the mushrooms grow.
To these the Bloody Bawdy Villain blabs.
So says he: To such a place at such a season
Here is a map, follow directions, note
Where the power line stretches across the hills
And there you are in the Sacred Grove
Where Boletes grow so thick and of such a giant size
They seem like coppery stepping stones
To the heavens of which all Gluttons dream.
Ao blabs the Bloody Villain. And what was
Once a Sacred Grove, where I alone, I
And when the sun was right, my shadow,
Hunted and stalked and bagged the fungoid quarry
And brought it home to enrich a sauce
Or crown a steak or bend a balking wife
To incorporate acts of love and thus extend
A Gourmet's reputation—That Sacred Grove
Once mine, is mine no more. It has become—
I weep to say that which it has become—
Along the way nailed to the trunks of trees
Are Spore print signs: Keep Out, these
Say, Or thou shalt not survive. P.S.M.S.
Thus turns the wheel of fortune. Once in,
I'm out now, and all of you are in.
But if I catch him once upon the hip
The Bloody Villain who poached and blabbed so freely
I'll feed fat the ancient grudge I bear him
Cursed be my soul if I forgive him!

Angelo Pellegrini

membership meeting

Monday, January 8, 1973, 8 pm, Eames Theater,
Pacific Science Center.

A delectable two-part evening is planned. (If we don't get snowed out as we did last month.) A slide lecture on the Polypores will be presented by our President Howard Melsen. There will also be a film on Mushroom Growing. Therefore, those of you who do not learn the Polypores will still have a chance to have mushrooms by growing your own. Happy New Year.





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ALTERNATES Cliff Carpetner, Virginia Kessner, Charles Kessner.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz



CALENDAR

- Jan. 8 Monday 8:00 pm Membership meeting
- Jan. 22 Monday 8:00 pm Board meeting
- Jan. 25 Jennie Schmitt's Mushroom Class starts **
- Jan. 26 Actual deadline for Sporeprints news. Send or weep: 4029 E. Madison, Seattle WA 98102.
- Feb. 12 Monday 8:00 pm Membership meeting
- March 31 Annual Survivors' Banquet

STARTING THE NEW YEAR RIGHT - WITH BRAIN PICKING

Starting January 25th I am going to lead a class for persons interested in furthering their knowledge of mushrooms. Come and pick our brains while we are picking yours.

Starting January 25th, 1973 at the Renton Highlands Recreation Center—the same building that the State Patrol is located in. There will be signs to direct you. There will be eight weekly meetings. Bring your favorite mushroom book. Time is 7:30 9:30 pm.

Jennie Schmitt (255-5286)

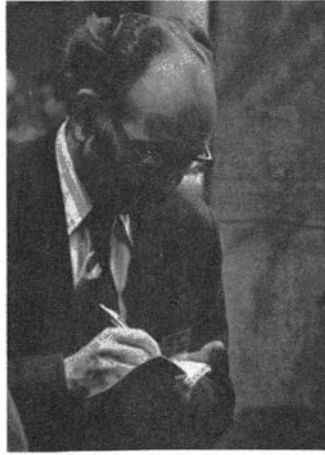


THE EXHIBIT

Here in Patrick Higgins' photos we have Dr. Stuntz, Estella Hansen, Dr. Alexander Smith with Dr. Stuntz, Kit Scates and Ben Woo. And Howard Melsen (top).

All the photos on p.2 (left) are courtesy of Pat Higgins with the exception of the young mycophiles at the bottom which was taken by Anon.

You'll have to guess who they are because there isn't room left.

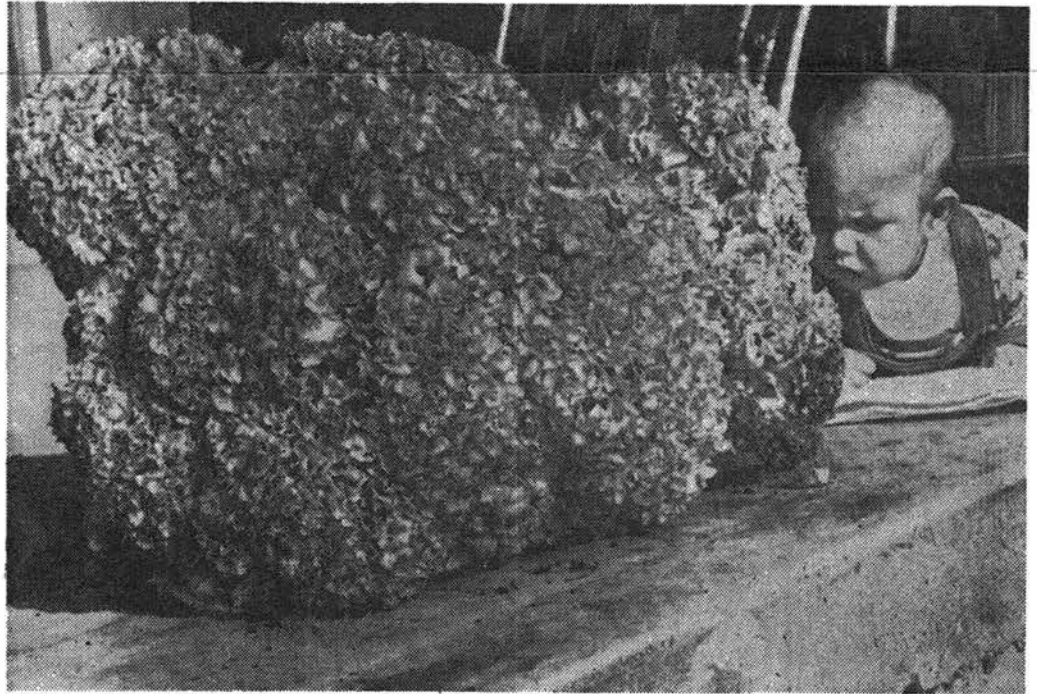


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our election is coming up soon. Now is the time for you to "get into the act" and take part in your Society. We have a number of very capable members if we could just seek them out and get them to participate. Our by-laws now limit terms to two years and these people must be replaced. If your telephone rings and someone asks you to "toss your hat in the ring" this will be your opportunity to help run this organization.

We have an election committee headed by Vic Nendza who is looking for candidates. If you know of anyone who would be willing to serve, tell Vic about it.

Howard Melsen
President



Cauliflower Mushroom a Rare Heavyweight

BOBBIE SHELTON, six months old, of Coos Bay, Ore., frowned as he appeared to study the 30-pound cauliflower mushroom his dad, Norman, found while on an elk hunting trip. The cauliflower mushroom

itself isn't rare, but heavyweights such as this one are. Normally, they average from three to six pounds. —UPI Photo.

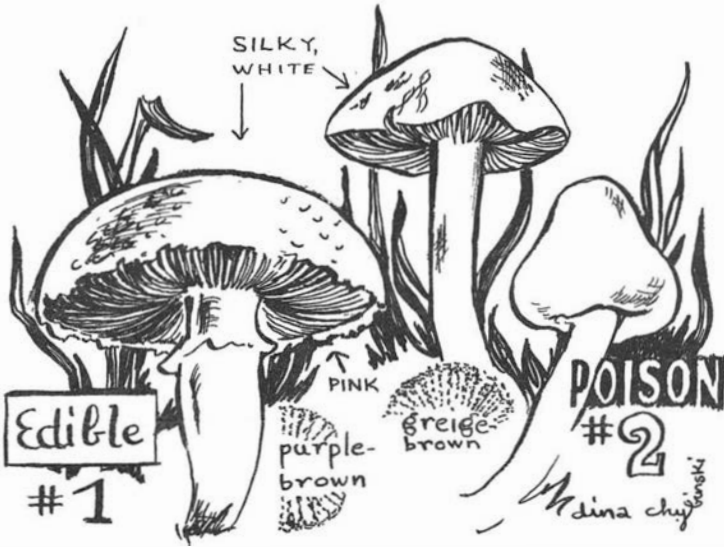
CONTENDER FOR THE TITLE. This Superb Sparassis clipping was contributed by Pat Foss, a photographer (not this photo), student of nature, but non-PSMS member. It came from a recent, but unidentifiable Seattle paper.



Thanks to Irene O'Connor for letting SP use her mushroom seals as illustrations. Here's one.



mystery mushroom



Though the resemblance isn't apparent in textbook pictures, mushrooms #1 and #2 may look remarkably alike to a hungry pot-hunter when their silky-white rounded caps are spotted in the grass. Attached but notched, the pallid gills of poisonous #2 may be stained pinkish and will gradually take on the dirty grey-brown "with a tile-red tinge" of the spores. To an optimist all this could seem to be the famed pink, free gills of well-loved #1. To their everlasting credit, the good edible caps grow larger (3"-6" wide) and may be flecked with small scales. The stocky stipe bears a ring.

Poisonous #2, called "The Blusher," may or may not stain pink if bruised, or whenever it darn well pleases. Characterized in the Friesian key by a "fleshy, fibrous stipe," a dry cap, and NO RING, the muscarine-loaded #2 often smells like chestnut catkins or just plain nasty.

Answers: #1 *Agericus campestris*, the "Meadow Mushroom" McKenny/Stuntz 136 & XXII, Lange & Hora 132. #2 *Inocybe pudica*, the "Blushing Inocybe" McKenny/Stuntz 132, Lange & Hora 154.



REPORT FROM THE UN-BOARD MEETING

Well, there weren't enough Board members present to constitute a quorum so no real business could be transacted. All those who chose to go out and spend money on gifties instead of attending, missed a truly delicious spread of edibles and coffee baked and brought by Fay Melsen.

Topics discussed included (but were not limited to) the price of food, contaminants in food, contaminants in mushrooms (including larvae), how wet it was, mushroom games, how best to learn the fungi, and what PSMS really want.

APOLOGIA (A Continuing Feature)

In the November issue Jennie Schmitt was good enough to do a lovely write-up of the NAMA Foray at Priest Lake. The Editor was not content with a good thing and fiddled around with it and mis-stated the news. Reynaldine Sandahl only received Honorable Mention. Leota Kisor of Olympia won the Best of Show. Apologies to Jennie, Reynaldine, and Leota. We (editorially) shall take this to heart and try to control incipient megalomania.

RELATED AMANITA NEWS

Bob Ramsey reports, "There was a yellow Amanita brought in to the June meeting which was at first labeled *A. Gemmata* and then was changed to *A. muscaria*. When I looked at it, I said *A. gemmata* but was reminded that the strong yellow color of the cap and the character of the veil remnants on the cap were typical of *muscaria*. Thus I wavered but couldn't reconcile the two. Scott Chilton took it to his lab to run a test and now says its chemistry places it under *A. pantherina*! That may be part of the answer—a yellow variety of *A. pantherina*, which has a volva with a single rolled edge as does *A. gemmata*. However, that is not all of the answer and there is a possibility that a new species has been among us. Let's hope we find it again next year."

DUES DUE

Dues are due but once a year and this is the time. If you forget to pay your dues your name will be yanked untimely from the mailing list and you will be badly out of touch. You may also be dragged through a field of deliquescing *Coprinus*. Ugh.

MR. TWEEDY

—By Ned Riddle



"Go on in. Marge is visiting her mother so I'll be doing the cooking tonight."

Charles Procter sent us this sinister goody from The Star and News, Washington, D.C. Wed. 8-30-72.