FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Tolt River Trip - April 13-14 - by Bill Pollard

The first outing of PEMS for the year 1974 was a success in terms of weather, view and mushrooms. Verpas could be found within one-half mile (in any direction) of the camp except within the city limits of Carnation (we didn’t look there).

On the debit side, and no thanks to the easter bunny or internal revenue, our campers and hunters were conspicuous by their absence - only 46 couples showed up.

This new campground is very special, only 25 miles from the Pollard El Rancho, dedicated last Jan., has the latest powder room facilities, including hot showers and electrical outlets. Located at the junction of two rivers there were cottonwoods everywhere. The ranger leaned over backwards to make us welcome - even to lending us the key to the gate.

Thanks to the bunny and Mary Hochwalt and her three baskets of easter eggs we were swamped with the deviled hen fruit. The country also looks good for a fall outing.

Squire Creek Trip - Apr. 20-21 - by June & Harley Perkins

It was a very pleasant and profitable weekend from the standpoint of mushrooms found. Everyone found Verpas and there were quite a few Helvella Gigas found.

We were the first to use this campground this season and it was sort of primitive - no water, fallen limbs, etc. - but we managed very nicely with the ingenious help of everyone, especially our co-hosts Nettie & Jack Laycock, also Pauline and Bill Pollard, and heating and lighting by Doug Carmichael.

We were also honored by our new president and his wife, Milt & Louise Grout and family. We had a potluck with dinner entertainment by the Western Mushroom Picker Gone Hippie and his Accordion, Frank Rentz. Thanks again to everyone for their help.

FIELD TRIPS by Martin Hansen

Thanks to the hosts and enthusiastic members for making our field trips huge successes.

June and Harley Perkins found the Squire Creek shelter an awful mess and spent Friday evening with the help of the Pollards, I believe, cleaning the place up for us. What a fine job they did.

New field trips are as follows:

May 11 & 12 Thunderbird Park. Five miles east of Monroe on the south side of the Skykomish River, on Ben Howard Road. Shelter, showers with hot and cold running, hookups with water, sewer, and electric at about $2.50 for campsite per day, with hookup $3.00, dump station 75¢; those who don't stay there but appear for viewing the collection table, potluck, or otherwise, 50¢ per visitor per day. These are last year's prices.

May 25, 26, 27 Crystal Springs Forest Camp. Go 10 miles past Snoqualmie Summit on Hwy. 90 and take exit marked Stampede Pass and you're there. Watch for mushroom signs.

**Membership Meeting**

Monday, May 13, 1974, 8:00 pm Eames Theater
Pacific Science Center.

**MORAL INTRIGUE** - Once again we rear our tasty little heads and challenge you to find us. To assist you the Moral Committee of the P.S.M.S. has consented to present a "Show & Tell Program" at the May regular meeting. They will show you what we look like and tell you where and when we were found. They will tell you their methods of studying us and show you the progress they have made in trying to discover our innermost secrets.

If you have any questions about us, they will attempt to answer them. See you at the May meeting. - Margaret Dilly, Chair, Moral Committee

**BOARD NOTES**

A nearly new slate of officers and board members took over the reigns at the P.S.M.S. and below is a list of the standing committees for your reference.

Standing Committees
Meetings... Margaret Dilly
Education... Scott Chilton
Annual Exhibit... Bill Pollard & Jack Orth
Membership... Sonja Cox
Publications... Sigrun Budnik
Mailing... Virginia Kessner
Book Sales... Helen Wasson
Bulletin... Hildegard Hendrickson
Historical Library... Judy Roger
House... "Tak" Mochizuki
Publicity... Pam Kowalski
Photography... Joy Spurr
Field Trips... Martin Hansen
Duties of Officers... Lester Baribo
Planning... Howard Melsen
Arts & Crafts... Elsie Gathcomb

**CALENDAR**

May 11 & 12 Thunderbird Park Field Trip
May 13 Membership meeting Monday 8:00 pm
May 20 Milt Grout's Spring Class begins 7:30 - 9:00 Science Theater
May 20 Board Meeting, Monday 8:00 pm
May 25, 26 & 27 Crystal Springs Field Trip
May 25 Deadline for Spore Prints news
June 8 & 9 Clear Lake Field Trip
June 10 Membership meeting Monday 8:00 PM

**BOARD NEWS**

H.R.H.

During the Board of Trustee meeting held in April the purpose and function of every standing committee was explained and committee assignments for next year were made.

A lengthy discussion about next year's banquet ensued which delayed the appointment of a banquet chairman until a future date.
MOREL COLLECTING by Margaret Dilly

It is morel collecting time again, and once more we are recruiting assistance from all of you. We have the bags — Do you have the morels? We are looking for morels collected from the N.E., S.E.; and S.W. areas of the State.

Just a reminder ONLY FRESH SPECIMEN — NO VERPAS
If you don't have an official bag — any bag with the information below on it — will do:

Your Name ___ Phone ___ Date found

Locality ___ Elevation ___ Environment ___

After you have marked the bag, shake the dirt from the morel (do not cut the morel please) and place it in the bag on a piece of white paper. Then contact one of the morel committee members listed below:

George Raffanelli RO 7 - 4408
1776 S. Columbian Way, Seattle 98107

Charlie and Virginia Kessner CH 2 - 1305
11826 10th S, Seattle 98168

Fred and Helen Wasson CH 3 - 6173
16545 Des Moines Way S, Seattle 98148

Claude & Margaret Dilly SU 2 - 8511
3055 N.W. 60th, Seattle 98107

Jim Bennett SU 4 - 6236
3023 N.W. 63rd, Seattle 98107

Dorothy Henderson LA 5 - 9379
6826 55th Ave.N.E., Seattle 98115

Bill Swaffield 244 - 2559
17708 42nd Ave.S., Seattle 98188

Howard & Fay Melsen 778 - 8191
23106 58th Ave.W, Mt. Lk. Terrace 98043

Joy & Roger Spurr 723 - 2759
6076 52nd Ave. So, Seattle 98118

The fieldtrip photos in this issue were provided by Ed Cantelon

BEGINNERS AND GENERAL REFRESHER CLASS

Taught by Milt Grout and Bob Ramsey

The spring class in mycology will be given in the Science Theater in the Pacific Science Center (located on the ground level, a short distance south of the Eames Theater). The first class will be held on May 20th, 1974 at 7:30 pm. There will be five sessions on Mondays from 7:30 - 9:00 pm, excluding May 27th (Memorial Day) and June 10th (Membership Meeting).

While the class will be designed with the beginner in mind, it should also be a good refresher for the more experienced collector. The common genera will be studied with slides, text and other visual aids.

There is no charge for the spring class.


NEW, ALL NEW EDITOR by A.H.

Our new Sporeprints Editor is the charming and capable Hildegard Hendrickson. Treat her nicely or we shall come back and haunt you. That means getting things in on time and legibly written. Please no impassioned last minute telephone calls; editors have enough to do without trying to read their own handwriting. (This applies to everyone but Martin Hansen who gets preferential treatment as our Mushroom Forecaster.)

Also, contrary to popular opinion the Editor does not have anything to do with membership or whether or not you got your bulletin this month; this is the province of the Membership lady Sonja Cox and the Mailing lady Virginia Kessner, respectively.

If we have offended or misused you in the course of the past year or two, we're (probably) sorry. On the other hand, we've had the pleasure of meeting a lot of fine people and the news has, usually, gone out. As you were!
Is Mushroom Collecting Most Dangerous Sport?

Mushroom-collecting has been called the most dangerous of all outdoor sports. It won't be if you play by the rules, marketing specialists point out.

Mushrooms have a definite fruiting season in Wisconsin and that season is May and June. To insure safe collecting of morel mushrooms this spring, these suggestions are offered:

Know precisely and positively what you're after. For information on identifying species of mushrooms, see your local county extension agent.

Collect only one species at a time, or keep each species in separate baskets.

Only fresh young specimens are suitable for food.

After a mushroom matures and begins to deteriorate, its edible qualities likewise deteriorate. Keep your collection as clean as possible. Pick the entire fruiting body so you're positive it is the right kind. Then trim off the lower parts and clean off any dirt before placing it in a basket.

Keep mushrooms in the shade and as cool and well ventilated as possible until you get home. Do not place mushrooms in plastic bags because they cause mushrooms to sweat and disintegrate rapidly. Bacteria and yeasts can cause great damage in a few hours on a hot day.

Clean, process and cook your mushrooms as soon as possible after you get home.

Tick problem solved by air deprivation

What do you do when you meet a tick?

It's not a matter of etiquette. You don't have to be polite. But it doesn't pay to be too abrupt, either.

Ticks should be handled with care. Should one settle down for a feast on a tender part of your anatomy, it would be improper just to yank it off. The tick will probably retaliate by leaving its head under your skin, causing you much misery for days.

The theory behind removing a tick is to deprive it of air, causing it to remove its head from your skin more or less voluntarily.

Positive it is the right kind. Then trim off the lower parts and clean off any dirt before placing it in a basket.

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