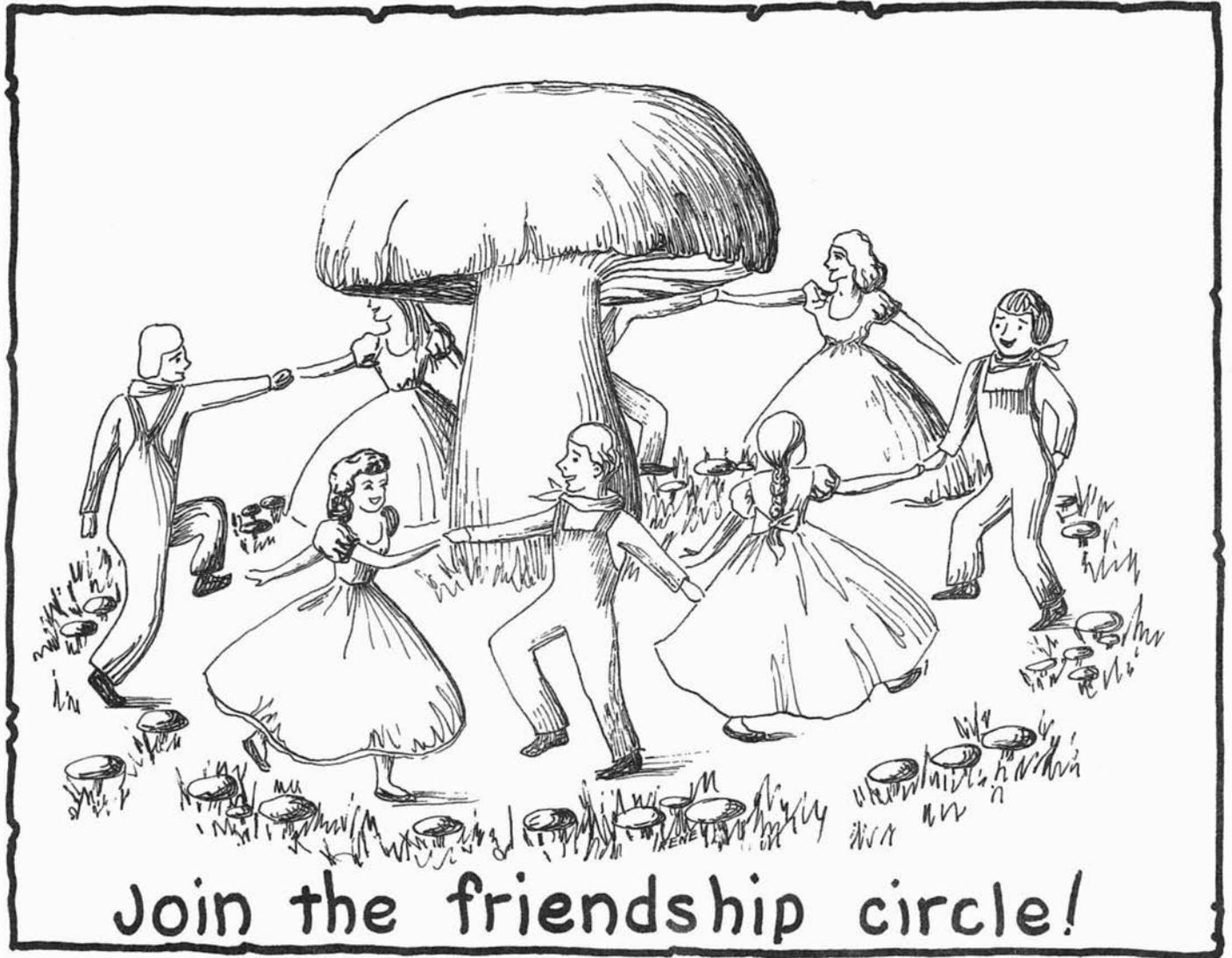
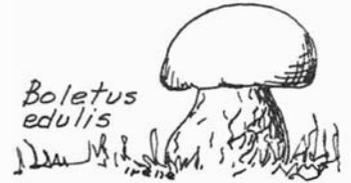


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109
January 1975

Number 108

1/29/75
*Boletus
edulis*



Join the friendship circle!

MEMO TO ALL SURVIVORS - - - - THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE WILL BE WARM AND BRIGHT TO WELCOME YOU TO THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET - - - COME ONE - - - COME ALL - - - TO HEAR OUR BELOVED DR. DANIEL STUNTZ (WHO ALWAYS IS THE CENTER OF OUR CIRCLE) SPEAK ABOUT FUNGI, FUN, FORAYS, ETC..... THE BANQUET WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, THE 22ND OF MARCH 1975 AT THE MOOSE LODGE SEATTLE CENTER PARKING GARAGE ON (LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE MERCER STREET). THE PRICE PER TICKET IS \$7.50. THE MENU WILL BE BARON OF BEEF (B.Y.O.B. - ICE AND MIXERS ARE INCLUDED). THE ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE UPTOWN - LOW-DOWN (NEW ORLEANS STYLE) JAZZBAND. YOU MAY EITHER BUY YOUR TICKETS AT THE JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, OR USE THE ORDER FORM INCLUDED IN YOUR SPORE PRINTS MAILING THIS MONTH. MAIL THE ORDER FORM, YOUR CHECK, AND A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE TO SIGRUN BUDNIK, 16183 SE. 42ND STREET, BELLEVUE, WA., 98006 (PHONE: 747 - 0578) DON'T DELAY - - - ONLY 400 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE - - - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.





SPORE PRINTS

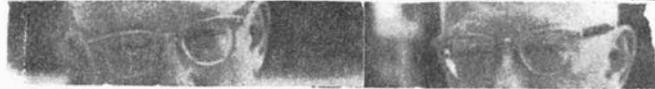
is published monthly except July and August by the PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY c/o The Pacific Science Center, 200 - 2nd Ave. N. Seattle, Washington, 98109. Mail copy, art, or photos to Hildegard Hendrickson, Editor, 4029 E. Madison, Seattle, 98102.

OFFICERS Milton Grout President
Margaret Dilly Vice Pres.
Fred Wasson Treasurer
Doris Paduano Secretary

TRUSTEES Lester Baribo; Sonja Cox; Monte Hendrickson; Takeo Mochizuki, Pam Kowalski; John Orth; Bill Pollard; Judy Roger; Kathleen Tracey; Patricia Winter; and Howard Melsen (immediate Past President).

ALTERNATES Sigrun-Margarete Budnik; Jerry Cone
Dorothy Conway.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz



CALENDAR

- Jan. 13 Monday Membership Meeting 8:00 pm
- Jan. 20 Board Meeting
- Jan. 24 Actual Deadline for Spore Print Material. Send all articles, art work, and especially recent photos to the Editor, % 4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102
- Feb. 10 Monday Membership Meeting 8:00 pm
- March 22 11th Annual Survivors' Banquet

EDITORIAL

H.R.H.

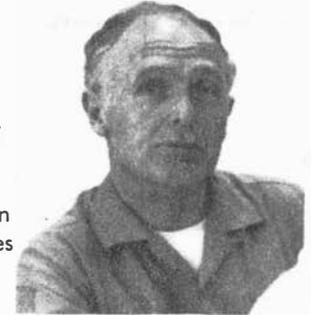
With this issue of the Spore Prints I am introducing two features which will appear from time to time. Belle Swaffield's fine article on the beginnings of PSMS introduces "Memories of Yesterday" because I feel that every member should have a good knowledge and understanding of the history and purpose of our organization. Hopefully, Belle is already digging deeper into the "you were there" department and preparing more of PSMS history to relive with us.

Another area of great interest to me is to get to know more of my fellow PSMS members (which just happens to be the theme of our 11th Annual Banquet coming up in March) as well as to give recognition to some of our members who, in either a visible or invisible capacity, may have worked long and hard to make our Society what it is, and whose continued work is necessary to carry on our activities efficiently and promptly. The first "Profile" article also appears in this issue so that "old" and "new" members may get to know each other better.

Membership Meeting

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

Program: Genus Lycoperdon presented by Bob Ramsey and Judy Roger (no photo of Judy was available at press time.) For newer members, Lycoperdons are in the "puffball" family. The program will include a discussion of the genus as well as some technical information on spore dispersal by gasteromycetes. Bob Ramsey has served PSMS in many capacities: President in 1970 and 1971; presently he is a member on the educational committee and chairman of the key-committee on puffballs. Judy Roger is a PSMS Trustee, member on the educational- and puffball-key committees.



BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The December Board Meeting was "spiced up" by Dr. P. Winter and "sweetened up" by Pauline Pollard. Margaret Dilly thanked everybody for helping make the December membership meeting such a success. We hope for an encore next year. All members are again urged to wear name tags at all PSMS functions so that all members get to know each other.

There seems to be some confusion as to where to mail your dues. The address is Membership Chairman (Sonja Cox) % PSMS, The Pacific Science Center, 200 - 2nd Ave. North Seattle, Wa., 98102. The deadline for renewing your membership is Jan. 31, 1975. So hurry up and send in your renewal.

The Board appointed Doug Carmichael (Chairman), Howard Melsen and George Rafanelli as the election committee. They would like to get many nominees for the Board and officers. Nominations will be accepted at the January and February membership meetings.

Other Business: Dave Schmitt is our new field trip chairman (more on this later). Car-pooling for field trips is in the serious planning stage. Dr. Patricia Winter (phone 486-4264) would like to hear from you if you like to donate Chanterelles or Morels for the banquet.

BOOKS REVIEWED AT DECEMBER MEETING J. Schmitt

M. McKenny & (revised and enlarged by) Dr. D.E. Stuntz, The Savory Wild Mushroom, published by the University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1971.

Re-edition: Dr. A. Smith, Mushrooms in their Natural Habitat, published by McMillan Publishing Co., Riverside, New Jersey, 08075; Stereo-photos pertaining to this book can be obtained through GAF, Consumer Photo Divn., Portland, Oregon, @\$13.75 per set. There are 33 sets.

New Book: Dr. A. & H. Smith, How To Know The Nongilled Fleshi Fungi, published by W.C. Brown, Dubuque, Iowa, We will print the authors, titles, publishers, and price, if available, for each book reviewed at a membership meeting for your convenience. So if you don't have your pencil and paper ready at the time of the review, just be patient.

HAPPY HUNTING IN 1975



MEMORIES OF YESTERYEAR or HOW PSMS WAS BORN

Belle Swaffield

The tenth birthday of our Society came and went without any particular fanfare or festivities, but it seems to have triggered a wave of interest into the background of our group. The date was February 18, 1974, one decade after the signing of the Corporate Charter that made the PSMS a working entity.

All business undertaken during that decade is a matter of record, and makes mighty interesting reading on these long, rainy afternoons. But what is not on record, is the story of how a small group of mushroom enthusiasts got together in the first place to form the nucleus of an ever expanding organization.

Having access to the PSMS historical files, and an excess of rainy afternoons, I tried to piece the picture together myself. There were, however, too many blanks, so I turned to the "You were there" department, the Charter Members. There aren't too many around any more; the rate of attrition accelerates with the passing years it seems. But all of them have left their mark on the Society in the form of countless hours of donated time, energy, knowledge, and patience..... just as you and I do in our time. Of the Charter Members currently listed in the roster, most are still highly active. Everyone contacted graciously shared his or her recollections with me. On piecing them together this story emerges:

Before our Society was formed there was little opportunity for the amateur to extend his mycological knowledge short of taking a formal course in the subject. Since the latter was not always feasible, small groups of enthusiasts would get together and exchange personal knowledge and information. From time to time individuals would visit Dr. Stuntz in his laboratory seeking confirmation of mushroom identification or just wanting to share mycological experiences.

Until her death in 1969 Margaret McKenny also shared her mycological knowledge and enthusiasm with all who sought her out. Many knew her as a lady of great heart and many accomplishments, readily identifiable as a rare and unusual species of the genus Homo sapiens. She is remembered with great affection and much gratitude. There were others who shared their mycological knowledge along the way, but still no cohesive body to which interested mushroom hunters could turn for help. Then a rare opportunity arose. In 1963, after the Seattle World's Fair was over, space became available at the Pacific Science Center which could be used by qualified amateur science groups. Federal aid would be given to sponsor such groups. Dr. Dixie Lee Ray, then Director of the Pacific Science Center, wrote several articles for the news media asking qualified groups to seriously consider such an arrangement. Dr. Ray considered a mycological group a worthy organization to sponsor. Also under consideration were a gem and mineral society, and a marine science group.

Ben Woo, a most knowledgeable amateur mycologist with a rare organizational ability was contacted. He agreed to spend time and talent to start a qualifying mycological group. There were already 15 to 20 persons interested, and an advertisement of intention to form such a group brought in about 85 more.

The remaining months of 1963 were spent in planning and organizing. A temporary Board was set up and the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws developed. Then of the 18th day of February, 1964 the Charter was duly signed and notarized. An election was held, and to quote Ben on that long-ago day: "The Society is now an actuality with Corporate Charter, Membership, Officers, Trustees, Money in the Bank, and Great Plans." The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the PSMS (I quote from the minutes) was held in the office of the President. Pre-

sent were: Benjamin Woo, President; Charles Volz, Vice President; Meriel Albright, Secretary; John Uitti, Treasurer; Trustees: Elsie Burkman; Frantz Coe; Akira Horita; and advisor, Dr. D.E. Stuntz.

The certificates of membership given out during the first year were signed by President Ben Woo using guess what kind of ink? Coprinus comatus, obtained from deliquescent specimens furnished by eager, participating members. Memberships #1 and #2 were presented to Dr. Ray and Dr. Stuntz in appreciation for their help and support. Later Margaret McKenny was presented with a framed membership certificate. By trial and error and monumental effort of all members of our Society we have matured into one of the strongest scientific, environmentally oriented organization in the state (from the Message to PSMS members 1974 roster).

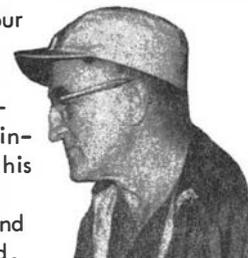
PROFILE OF A HARDWORKING MEMBER

H.R.H.

I feel somewhat guilty writing up the first profile article since I had promised our prez that I would get the person's consent, yet this is the first Ed gets of this article. But I did, in a roundabout way keep my promise, by obtaining the background information from his lovely wife Ella.

Ed Cantelon was born in Montana, and hunted *Agaricus campestris* as a child. He became seriously interested in the field of mycology in 1965 and joined PSMS in 1966. You will realize just how lucky Ed has been since joining PSMS, when you hear that he met Ella (naturally a mushroom enthusiast) on a PSMS field trip, and that he wooed her with a huge bouquet of *Ramaria flava*.

Ed is one of the invisible pillars of our Society. He has worked on every exhibit in numerous jobs: carpentry, freeze dry, feel-and-smell, and lately tray arrangements. For several years now, on Friday before the Exhibit till 11 pm, and again at 6 am on Saturday, Ed and Ella greet and accept the fungi from the mushroom hunting crews at the back door of the Science Center, when they arrive with their finds for the exhibit. This is dedication. Ed was election chairman for PSMS in 1974 (and also persuaded your present editor to take on her assignment). On many field trips, Ed has, with his friendly and outgoing personality, guided many new members on their first forays. For the last 3 autumns Ed (and I am sure Ella was assisting) has held beginners' classes at the Manhattan School in south Seattle I deliberately chose Ed for the first of my profile articles, because his dedicated willingness to become involved in these many activities of PSMS should be known to all of our members, especially however, our "newer" ones so that they too come forward, become involved and make our society even better in the future.



Our Thanks to Irene O'Connor who contributed the lovely drawing for the cover of this month's Spore Prints.

Coming next month.... The results of Crown-Zellerbach's attempt to grow morels commercially....

Your editor and "staff" hope you had a Merry Christmas and we wish you a very HAPPY and SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR (mushroom-wise that is). Specifically to the fieldtrip chairman accurate weather and mushroom crop prognosis; and to the election chairman an overflowing slate of eager candidates; last but not least, for ourselves ... a guided *Boletus* foray by Buzz Walters.

NOTES FROM THE PSMS POISONING COMMITTEE

Scott Chilton

Woman recovers from *Galerina autumnalis* poisoning. A Seattle woman, 71, who ate 40 *Galerina autumnalis* at one sitting, and six more in a sauce a few hours later became ill about 8 hours later and was treated at Virginia Mason Hospital with the experimental drug thioctic acid. Thioctic acid, which can be obtained in an emergency by telephone from Dr. Frederick C. Bartter, Clinical Director, National Heart and Lung Institute of the National Institute of Health, was flown from Bethesda, Md., to the patient in Seattle.

Professor Daniel Stuntz confirmed the identity of the *G. autumnalis*. Professor Lynn Brady, U. of W., performed chromatography on extracts of the mushrooms which the woman mistook for *Agaricus campestris*. The quantity of alpha-amanitin in three mushrooms of *G. autumnalis* could be a lethal dose. Fortunately, the woman survived and was discharged on Nov. 30th after 10 days in the hospital.

WERE FATAL MUSHROOMS LACED WITH DRUGS?

Scott Chilton

On Friday, November 8, 1974 Ronald R. Gibson, 22, was taken to Harborview Hospital after becoming unconscious at his home. Gibson never regained consciousness and died on Monday afternoon. Death was initially ascribed to mushrooms found at Gibson's home. Professor Stuntz found the mushroom fragments contained *agaricus* spores and that two-spored basidia could be seen. The implication is that these were simply store-bought *Agaricus bisporus*. The Seattle Times carried an article suggesting the mushrooms had been laced with an LSD-type drug, as has occurred sometimes in the past. Subsequent chromatographic examination of the mushrooms in the Medical Examiner's Laboratory detected no LSD, cocaine or any of a number of other street drugs. The autopsy produced no clear evidence of the cause of death. It remains unclear whether mushrooms were involved in this incident or not.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Larry & Annie Bronner - 938-2295
John & Lucille Chamberlin - 523 - 2341
Frank & Janie Daniels - 426 - 6547
Robert F. Fallis - 325 - 3399
George & Lotte E. Graham - 324 - 1705
Mr & Mrs. J. M. Hamby - 937 - 7427
Melba & Homer Hartzell - 283 - 6745
Henry Meacham - 935 - 8188
Gerald & Gerrie D. Marchand - 362 - 2897
Milton & Clara Reynolds - 745 - 0876
Jutta & Claus Seligmann - 324 - 0762
Paul I. Skorniakoff - 523 - 2091
Rick Troberman/Alana Woodward - 524 - 3827
Richard & Marian Vimont - 922 - 7042
Nancy J. Watson - 322 - 7878
Frank F. White - 322 - 4249

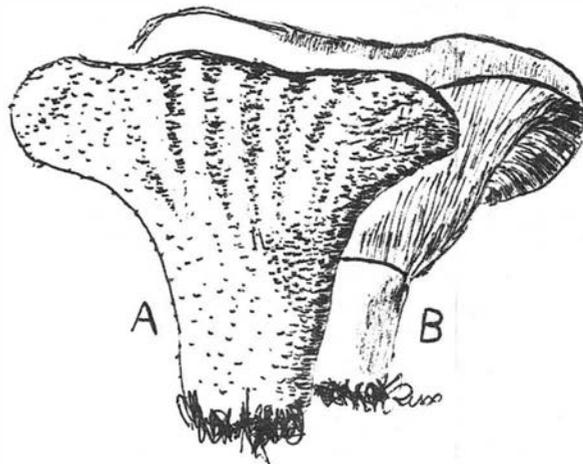
Dear New Friends - Don't let the above two articles intimidate you - just keep away from amanitas and little brown fungi (Groul) - Space considerations required the list be here. "Staff"

CAN YOU TOP THIS ?

Bill O'Connor

Found this fall: *Boletus mirabilis* which weighed 26 oz. (not rain soaked) had a diameter of 7", was 9" high with a circumference of 21". Also found a *Catathelasma imperialis* which weighed 42 oz. (not rain soaked) had a diameter of 10", was 12" high with a circumference of 32".

Bill's pictures had not been developed at press time. But he would like to start a little contest in which size of a mushroom would be the prime consideration. Can anyone top this? (ed.)



This ascomycete forms a host parasite combination producing an orange-pimpled monstrosity, the remains of which once were a *Russula* (Fig. B) or *Lactarius*. The attack occurs in the early youth of the host so that gill formation is reduced to ridges. This parasite may also attack *Boletes* and *Amanita* species. It forms a yellow solid structure in the former, and a white, knobbed structure in the latter, in contrast to the orange form shown in figure A.

It is a tasty mushroom when stewed, but care should be taken since it renders *Lactarius* bloodless. Found in the fall in mixed forests.

Answer: *Hymomyces lactiflorum*

Source: A. Smith, The Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide
The University of Michigan Press, p. 41

Mystery Mushroom and text by S. Kennedy

TO BELLE AND HELEN, THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

Belle Swaffield and Helen Wasson are pleased to report that they have been well received by the numerous groups to whom they have given educational lectures during the past year. The groups included: Auburn Rotary, Auburn; Cub Pack #61 Mountlake Terrace; Des Moines Rotary Club, Des Moines; Magnolia Public Library; Shrinking Violet Garden Club, Kirkland; Uplake Garden Club, Kenmore; Boeing Garden Club, Boeing Developmental Center; West Seattle Garden Club, Seaview Methodist Church; Seattle Public Library, Downtown.

Belle and Helen also just completed an 8-week course on mushrooms for the Community School Department at Chief Sealth High School in West Seattle.

REMINDER FOR DUES FOR 1975

Sonja Cox

Your membership dues for 1975 have to be received by the membership chairman by January 31, 1975 or your name will be removed from our mailing list. Sonja Cox will be at the January membership meeting, or you can mail your check to Membership Chairman (Sonja Cox) PSMS, % The Pacific Science Center, 200 - 2nd Ave. N., Seattle, 98109