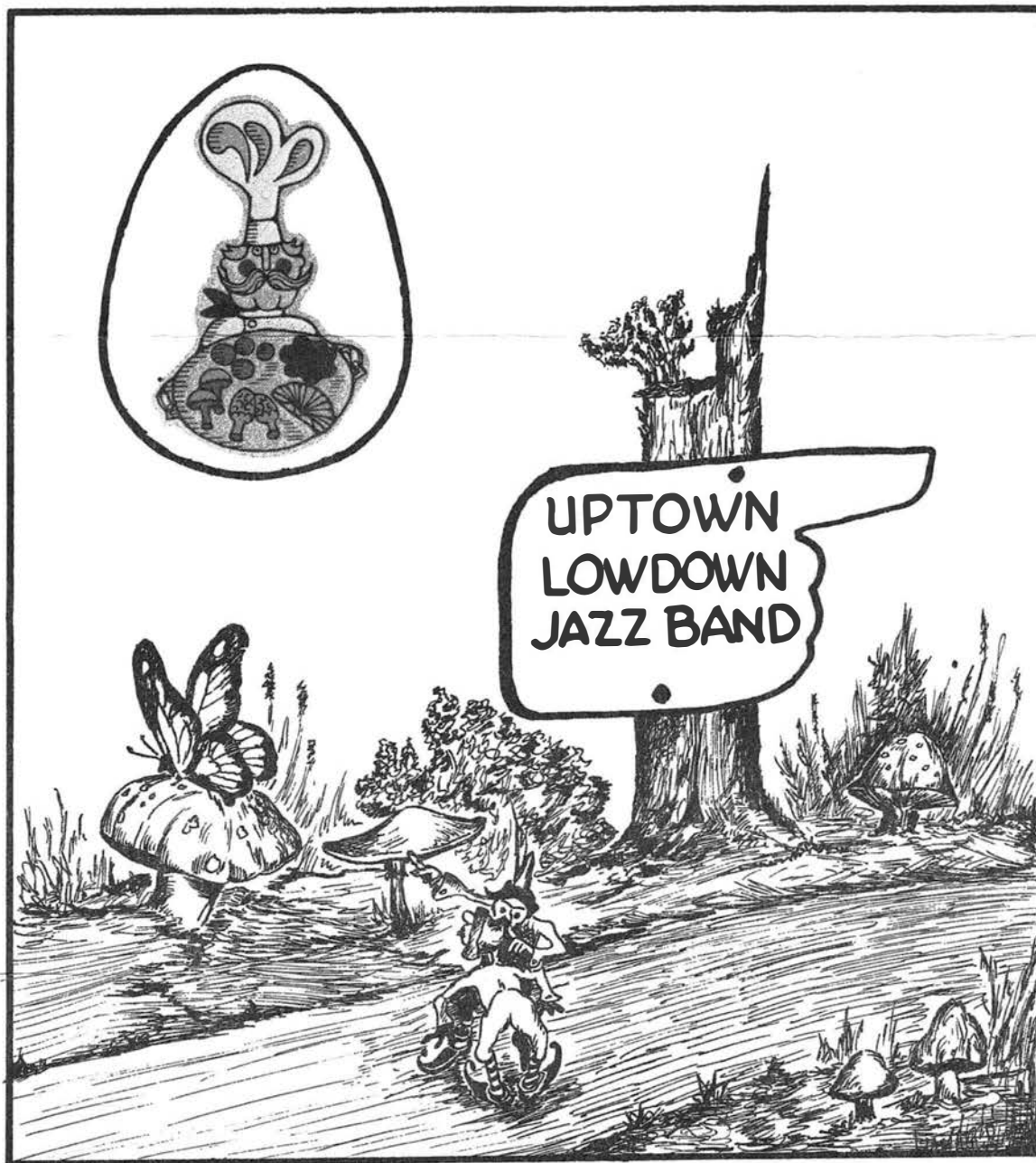


# SPORE PRINTS

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

Number 109



SECOND MEMO TO  
ALL YE WHO SUR-  
VIVED THE FUNGUS  
FORAYS OF 1974 = =  
THE UPTOWN LOW-  
DOWN JAZZ BAND  
SIGN IS POINTING  
THE WAY TO THE  
MOOSE LODGE  
WHERE ON MARCH  
22, 1975 THEY WILL  
BE ONE OF THE  
FEATURE ATTRACT-  
IONS AT OUR 11TH  
ANNUAL SPRING  
BANQUET = = =  
DON'T MISS THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO  
ALSO HEAR OUR  
DR. DANIEL STUNTZ,  
THE MAIN SPEAKER  
OF THE EVENING,  
REGALE US OF  
FUNGI AND OTHER  
THINGS FANTASTIC,  
AND MOST OF ALL  
HELP US UNFOLD  
OURSELVES WITHIN  
THE FRIENDSHIP  
CIRCLE = = =

THE MOOSE LODGE IS LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE SEATTLE CENTER PARKING GARAGE ON MERCER STREET. THE BANQUET WILL BE SERVED BUFFET STYLE AND THE MENU WILL CONSIST OF BARON OF BEEF AND CHICKEN ACCOMPANIED BY MANY SALADS. B.Y.O.B. - ICE AND MIXERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE TICKET PRICE OF \$7.50 PER PERSON. THE SOCIAL HOUR STARTS AT 6:00 PM WITH DINNER FOLLOWING AT 7:00 PM. ONLY 400 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE SO HURRY AND BUY YOURS AT THE FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING OR USE THE ORDER FORM WHICH YOU RECEIVED IN LAST MONTH'S SPORE PRINT MAILING, AND SEND IT WITH YOUR CHECK AND A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE TO THE TICKET CHAIRMAN SIGRUN BUDNIK, 16183 S.E. 42ND STREET, BELLEVUE, WA. 98006. = = DON'T DELAY = = FIRST COME = = FIRST SERVED.



#### SPORE PRINTS

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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

# Membership Meeting

Monday, February 10, 1975, 8:00 pm., Eames Theater  
Pacific Science Center.

Program: The History of Use of Hallucinogenic Mushrooms  
will be presented by Jonathan Ott, who is a student at the  
University of Washington, and the author of "Hallucinogenic  
Plants of North America" to be published soon. We have the  
rare opportunity to hear Jonathan Ott, before he leaves Seattle  
and begins graduate studies on hallucinogenic plants at the  
University of Mexico in March 1975.

Following will be a NEW Film on Shitake (= the commer-  
cially grown mushroom of Japan). This film has just been  
brought from Japan.

Belle Swaffield will give a short presentation on the genus  
"Verpa" and wet our appetites for the coming spring mush-  
room season.

#### BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The Treasurer's report, requested by many members, will be  
ready for the March issue of the Spore Prints.

The Educational Committee is working on the arrangements for  
a Spring Educational Foray in the North Cascades. The approx-  
imate date is May 15th, but this will depend on the weather,  
i.e. depth of snow cover this winter, rain, sunshine, etc.  
At the present time there are no plans to hold a spring class.  
The Educational Committee is presently preparing a new class  
on the intermediate level. (More at a later date.)

The Educational Committee also proposed to the Trustees that  
PSMS sponsor a National Foray in conjunction with NAMA  
(North American Mycological Association) either in 1976 or  
1977. The Board passed a resolution endorsing the idea in prin-  
ciple, but wanted 30 days to study all facets of such an under-  
taking. The Board would welcome ideas from the membership.  
The membership chairman (Sonja Cox - phone 746 - 1495) re-  
ported that quite few members (and she meant QUITE a few) had  
not renewed their PSMS memberships at the time of the board  
meeting. (ed. Even if the deadline of January 31 has already  
passed, put that check in the mail today, or renew at the mem-  
bership meeting. Otherwise these will be the last Spore Prints  
which are sent to you.)

Helen and Fred Wasson are trying hard to get the two hard-to-  
get books (A. & H. Smith: How to know the Nongilled Fleahy  
Fungi, and M. Lange & F.B. Hora: A Guide to Mushrooms &  
Toadstools. (So just be patient a little longer)

The Trustees have been discussing the need for PSMS to have a  
phone listing for some time now. Financial reasons, however,  
preclude the hiring of a person for this service. Therefore, the  
idea was voiced, whether one of our members would volunteer  
for this service? (So you have heard it, and the Board hopes to  
hear from someone.)

Responding to wishes of the membership arrangements for car-  
pooling for field trips are being made. More and details in a  
separate article in this issue of Spore Prints.

(The Board tackled a lot of issues, this time around. ed.)

#### MUSHROOM DONATIONS FOR THE BANQUET

Dr. Patricia Winter (phone 486 - 4264) would like to hear  
from you if you have Chanterelles or Morels which you want  
to donate for our banquet.

Please bring the DRIED mushrooms to the Feb. 10 membership  
meeting (it facilitates the pick-up considerably). Thank you.

#### CALENDAR

Feb. 10 Monday Membership Meeting 8:00 pm

Feb. 17 Board Meeting

#### CALENDAR

Feb. 10 Monday Membership Meeting 8:00 pm

Feb. 10 This month only ACTUAL deadline for Spore Print  
material for the March issue. Send all articles,  
art work, and especially recent photos to the  
Editor, % 4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102  
Or bring all materials to the membership meeting.

Feb. 17 Board Meeting

March 22 11th Annual Survivors' Banquet. (No meeting in  
the Eames Theater this month)

April 12 & 13 (date tentative) Fieldtrip to Squire Creek

April 14 Monday, Membership Meeting 8:00 pm

#### WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

James Ferguson - 325 - 7142

John & Nancy Fields - 524 - 0628

Jonna M. Pomeroy - 324 - 2618

Dirk E. Sergeant - 624 - 5700

Jack Watson - 782 - 0479

## GROWING MORELS COMMERCIALY - DID NOT WORK

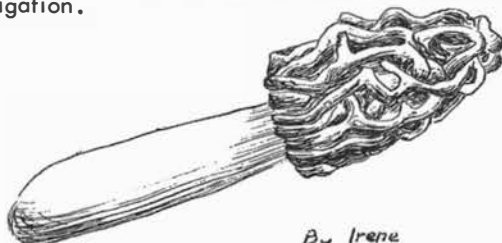
by Bill Pollard

Some of you may remember reading in the Spore Prints of Dec. 1970 about the growth of morels in some experimental plots run by Crown Zellerbach at Camas. The experiment was intended to test the effect of paper mill sludge (waste liquor) on the growth of certain vegetable crop plants, and the appearance of considerable numbers of morels in the treated plots was both unexpected and surprising. That phrase - "numbers of morels" - automatically turns on any mushroom hunter's mycological radar, and those of us who had read the article or heard about it, zeroed in on Crown-Zellerbach, waiting for further announcements. Well, we waited in vain, because there weren't any further announcements.

Last May, when I was taking a little "vacation" in Providence Hospital, I met a fellow vacationer, Richard "Bud" Wood, who is an employee of Crown Zellerbach in their Chemical Research Department at Camas. Of course, the subject of the morels came up, and Wood suggested I write to Mr. Aspitarte, the manager of CZ's Environmental Development Program. I did write, and got a very prompt reply which also included a Xerox copy of that part of the company's Federal grant report pertaining to the morel production. Mr. Aspitarte said that they had tried to duplicate in a greenhouse the results with morels obtained in their outdoor experimental plots, but without success, and when their project dealing with utilization of paper mill sludge was completed several years ago, their investigation into the morel growing was discontinued.

The Federal grant report gives some further information. The experimental plots were treated with sludge in the fall, and the morels appeared the following spring (sounds familiar..?) Production of morels was "almost without exception" confined to the plots treated with sludge. The morel investigation was set up as follows (presumably in a greenhouse, according to the letter, though the grant report does not say so). Sludge was roto-tilled into an area of soil which was then inoculated with a slurry of morel mycelium and spores. Half of this area was treated with ammonium nitrate, half left untreated, and the whole area fitted with a shallow box-like cover held six inches off the ground, to conserve moisture and reduce light intensity. This set-up was made in 1970, and maintained through 1972. It never produced any morels, though substantial crops of them grew in the treated plots outdoors in the spring of 1971 and 1972. That apparently is where the matter was left when the sludge project was terminated in 1972.

I showed the letters and the grant report to Dr. Stuntz and asked him to extract the essentials for this article, and that's what you're reading here. We thought of several questions about the project, especially the morel experiment. Did the investigators try to find out what component of the sludge stimulates the formation of the morel fruiting bodies? Did the slurry used to inoculate the experimental morel plot ever give rise to a mycelium? Where did the soil for the greenhouse plot come from - did it already have any live morel mycelium in it? It seems like someone ought to continue the investigation.



By Irene

## PSMS HAS A NEW FIELDTRIP CHAIRMAN

H.R.H.

Starting with the spring mushroom season, Dave Schmitt will be our new fieldtrip chairman.



We are very fortunate to be led by someone like Dave, who is interested in everything connected with the outdoors, and especially, mushrooms.

And what many of you newer members may not realize is that we are getting a "bonus" in the form of Dave's very capable wife, Jenny. Jenny is an expert mushroom identi-

fier, and every fall holds classes in Renton. Dave and Jenny have been PSMS members since 1965 and have been hosts on many fieldtrips. Dave has served on the board of trustees and as vice president (1970).

Since Martin Hansen (our fieldtrip-chairman-emeritus) has agreed to assist Dave with his advice, encouragement and forecasting (of-the-exact-mushroom-fruiting-time) skills, we can look forward to many successful fieldtrips.

The tentative date for our first spring fieldtrip has been set for April 12 & 13 to Squire Creek. Dave asks for volunteers to host this and the other spring fieldtrips to be scheduled later. In another space of this issue of Spore Prints take note of the plans for carpooling for fieldtrips which are being made.

P.S. Many of our members may not realize that the dates for the fieldtrips have to be set way ahead, so that they can get into the next issue of Spore Prints, and IF the weather then takes an unexpected turn one-way-or-the-other, and we don't find any fungi on the fieldtrips, we must blame the weather, not our very able and dedicated fieldtrip chairman



## EDITORIAL

H.R.H.

Elections are coming up next month, with nominations closing at the February membership meeting. The new slate of elected officers and trustees is announced at the Annual Survivors' Banquet which will be held on Saturday, March 22, 1975 since the banquet serves as our March membership meeting.

The nominating committee this year consists of Doug Carmichael, chairman (phone 524 - 4926), Howard Melsen (phone 778 - 8191) and George Rafanelli (phone 767 - 4408). On behalf of our election committee, I would like to ask everyone who is (even a little bit) interested in OUR society to either run for office or nominate one of our many capable members for a leadership position. Serving in an office will give you satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment and new friendships.

You may nominate any member, including yourself. But if you nominate a member other than yourself, you must get the member's permission to do so.

It is YOUR efforts that make OUR society what it is. Candidates are asked to submit a less-than-fifty-word biographical sketch, and a black-and-white snapshot of self at the February membership meeting (if not sooner) so the voters can read and see what they are getting. For those candidates who do not have photos, the election committee will have an instant-picture camera and "shoot" you at the February membership meeting.

The photos and biographical sketches of the candidates will be mailed to you for your vote, and by all means, **DO VOTE!**

Although Jack Orth is a rather recent member of our society (1972), he is a good example of a person who feels that mem-



bership in PSMS is a two-way street. Jack right away volunteered to be nominated to run for the board of trustees, (and won, of course). During his two years on the board (it's too bad that our by-laws limit a tenure of 2 years) Jack served on the education committee in charge of educational materials. He worked many

hours (I am sure with the help of his charming wife Navarre) putting together the "Compilation of Educational Material Designed To Assist In The Identification Of Pacific Northwest Mushrooms", which is distributed during the beginners' classes held by PSMS, and Jack also assisted with the 1974 Spring Mushroom Class. Then Jack took on the co-chairmanship (with Bill Pollard) of our most ambitious undertaking of the year, the Annual Exhibit in October of 1974. He showed unique qualities of being able to pull together all the loose strings and unify all efforts toward the grand show. Jack was born in Seattle, attended Lincoln High School, and graduated from the University of Washington. In everyday life, Jack is the Assistant Technical Director of the Nuclear Physics Laboratory at the University of Washington. Jack's other hobbies (besides mushrooms, of course) are micro-photography, music, sailing, hiking, and include a special interest in girls. Jack and Navarre are regular participants in our fieldtrips, and to provide extra entertainment after the potluck dinners, Jack rigged up a slide projector to run off a car-battery, so he and others could show off their mushroom and other slides. (Yours truly let him down one time by forgetting the slides of home).

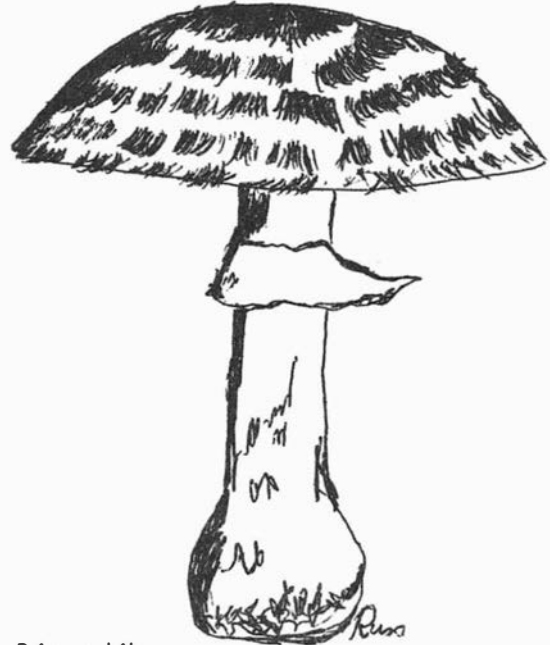
CARPOOLING FOR THE COMING FIELDTRIPS H.R.H.

Over the last year the Board of Trustees has received many communications that in the arrangements of fieldtrips several categories of members were not considered. For instance, new members often did not attend fieldtrips, because they were not specifically invited, or did not know the "ABC's" of a field trip. Many single members did not want to drive alone (and hunt mushrooms alone); or some members don't drive at all, and therefore too, could not participate. There were other reasons cited, but the ones mentioned above came through loud and clear.

Plans are under way to arrange for carpooling for the spring and fall field trips. At the February membership meeting there will be sign-up sheets. You should sign up if you need a ride or if you can provide transportation.

We hope to be able to provide transportation for one day (say Saturday to include potluck) and we are also very optimistic and hope that some of our members who own and come in recreational vehicles, will offer transportation as well as sleeping accommodations.

Monte Hendrickson (phone 523 - 2892) and Doris Paduano (782 - 8382) are the coordinators. They should be called during the week preceding a field trip, when the final arrangements will be made.



- Spore Print: white
- Cap: light brown to shaggy (see fig,) in age; developing from rounded to flat, to 25 cm, turning pink when broken or bruised; veil covering in early stage.
- Gills: white; free from stem.
- Stem: bulbous base but no volva; annulus present
- Edibility: very tasty; the author has found it in cultivated garden peat in February. Be sure gills aren't green (= a closely related poisonous species)

The Savory Wild Mushroom (U of W. Press) p.43  
 Answer: Lepiota rachodes (Source: McKenny & Stuntz,

Mystery Mushroom and text by S. Kennedy

BITS AND PIECES H.R.H.

We are giving you notice herewith that the March issue of Spore Prints will arrive ahead of the normal time. The board of trustees decided to combine the ballot and bulletin mailing (= saving of 500 stamps and envelopes); therefore, the deadline for Spore Prints material will be February 10, which is the evening of the membership meeting.

Our Thanks to Bob Davidson who contributed the timely drawing for the cover. Your editors added the mushroom chef to accent the banquet theme.

Coming in April... Bill Pollard's participation in the program which has had to be postponed at least twice.

There were 492 species of mushrooms collected during the 1974 NAMA Foray, and some collectors may not have sent in their reports yet.

I hope that after reading the Profile on Jack Orth many of our newcomers will come forward and get more actively involved in YOUR PSMS as officers, trustees and committee members.