

SPORE PRINTS

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

Number 111



FIELD TRIPS by Dave Schmitt

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TURNOUT FOR THE FIELDTRIPS !!
POOL - IT - BRING A FRIEND - AND/OR A NEW PSMS MEMBER.

- April 12 - 13 Rockport State Park near Concrete
Take Burlington Exit from I-5 and proceed on State Highway #20 to Rockport.
An alternate route is to take the Arlington Exit from I-5 and proceed through Darrington toward Rockport.
The State Park is located one mile west of Rockport. The ranger, Les McKenzie requests that trailers only use designated spaces. Campers are to use the parking area in front of the shelter. Please check at the shelter before putting down your anchor. There will be a charge for camping. Either route, listed above, is lined with cottonwoods for hunting on the way. Good steelhead fishing is in the nearby Skagit River (with license)
- April 19 Tolt County Campgrounds located one-half mile south of Carnation.
Note this is a one-day trip, since the campground has no shelter, (we hope for nice weather, of course, but we cannot depend on it). No potluck. This area was productive in Verpa Bohemica last year.
- April 26 - 27 Crystal Springs Forest Camp. Go 10 miles past Snoqualmie Summit on I - 90 and take the exit marked Spampede Pass and you're there. Watch for the mushroom signs.
- May 10 - 11 Educational Fieldtrip to Tumwater Forest Camp located on US-2 about 10 miles before you get to Leavenworth. Details next month.

CARPOOLING FOR FIELDTRIPS H.R.H.

As reported earlier, Monte Hendrickson (phone 523-2892) and Doris Paduano (phone 782-8382) are the clearing house for carpooling for the coming spring fieldtrips. They have on file the names of some members who are willing to provide rides. Those who need rides should call as soon as possible so that they can be "matched up". Of course, we hope that there are also more PSMS members who are willing to provide rides. Let's hear from you. It is our hope that all members who would like to go on fieldtrips would have the opportunity to do so.

MORE ON TRUFFLES by Don & Judy Willott

Italy's \$200-a-pound truffle business is thriving despite the world economic picture, and production is expected to reach 20 tons this year. Truffle locations are prized possessions and fathers pass their secret locations on to their sons. This article was in the Christian Science Monitor. Now we know why even Peanuts and Snoopy are interested.

CISPUS II FORAY, Oct. 24-25-26, 1975

Scott Chilton

PSMS will hold a regional foray October 24-25-26, 1975 at the Cispus Environmental Center. Cispus is located between Mt. Rainier and Mt. Adams at about 1,500 feet in an excellent collecting area. The date is the peak of the mushroom season, one week after the annual PSMS Exhibit in Seattle.

A number of professional mycologists have already accepted invitations and will help with identification or give talks. These include our Dr. Daniel Stuntz, University of Washington, Dr. David Hosford, Central Washington State College and Dr. David Largent, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California.

The program will include: a welcome Friday evening; fieldtrips, seminars and identification tables Saturday; talks by mycologists Saturday evening; and fieldtrips and identification tables Sunday morning.

Accommodations will be in separate mens' and womens' dorm style cabins. Bring warm clothes and sleeping bags or bedding. Price, including registration, all meals and lodging is \$17. Of this amount, \$5 should be paid with your initial registration to hold a reservation.

Transportation. Cispus is near Randle on the White Pass Highway, US #12. PSMS volunteers will provide transportation Friday evening and early Saturday morning for those arriving in Seattle from out of town.

There are a limited number of accommodations at Cispus, so make your reservation early by mailing the form included with this issue of Spore Prints and the \$5 registration fee or the full \$17 to Jennie M. Schmitt, 1200 Lake Washington Blvd.N., Space #70, Renton, Washington, 98055.

SHIITAKE GROWN IN WASHINGTON E.W. Hufford

E.W. Hufford from Woodinville sent us the following clipping from the Everett Herald (a picture was included but will have to wait for a later printing): Atsumi Ota, an Evergreen State College student has grown a Japanese shiitake mushroom nine and a half inches in diameter (normal size is 3 inches). He grew the shiitake in a willow log resting in a bed of sawdust. By keeping the sawdust damp he was able to create the proper humidity to encourage the fungus to prosper. Ota believes other shiitake fanciers could recreate his experiment in Washington using the same method, although usual growth time is about one and a half years. Let your editor know if you are interested in following up on this experiment.

EDITORIAL H.R.H.

Thank you to those thoughtful members who collect articles, cartoons, pictures, etc. and send them to me. I am getting a small file so that I am now much more comfortable when the copy deadline appears and know that I can fill the Spore Print columns with material you like to see. Some of you, however, will have to be a little patient and wait to see your articles printed since this month there were so many current informational items which concern our members.



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 R. Hendrickson, Editor, %
4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102.

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CALENDAR

- April 12 - 13 Fieldtrip to Rockport State Park
- April 14 Monday, Membership Meeting 8:00 pm
- April 19 Fieldtrip to Tolt River County Campground
- April 21 Board Meeting
- April 25 Actual Deadline for Spore Print Material. Send all articles, art work, and photos to the Editor % 4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102
- April 26 - 27 Fieldtrip to Crystal Springs Forest Camp
- May 10 - 11 Educational Fieldtrip to Tumwater Forest Camp
- May 12 Monday, Membership Meeting 8:00 pm

NAMA WILL HOLD A EUROPEAN FORAY

NAMA is still soliciting participants for its European Foray September 1 - 23. The group will leave via PanAm Charter from Boston for Glasgow. Forays, sightseeing in Scotland till Sept. 9. From Sept. 10-14 there will be forays in Black Forest in Germany. Sept. 15-19 Forays in Switzerland and Sept. 20-22 in France.

Total Cost (from Boston) will be between \$800 - \$900 and this includes all meals, lodging and transportation in Europe. Roger and Joy Spurr plan to attend. Additional information can be obtained from Joy or by writing to Mr. Harry Knighton NAMA, 4245 Redinger Road, Portsmouth, Ohio, 45662.

Membership Meeting

Monday, April 14, 1975, 8:00 pm Eames Theater
Pacific Science Center.

Program: Our president, Milton Grout, will tell us about the Spring Mushrooms - how to identify them, and where to find them. The presentation will include slides, and maybe, a few special places, where to hunt???

Scott Chilton, our new vice-president will have a short presentation on the Spring Poisonous Mushrooms. And last, but not least, we will finally be treated to the long promised: Misadventure in Mycology, Second Installment, by Bill Pollard. (I tried to get more details, but Bill wants it to be a surprise for everyone.)

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The newly elected slate of officers and trustees met two days after the banquet and went to work on the business for the next year. One of the first orders of business was the assignment of committee chairmanships. The Board passed a motion that PSMS should join NAMA as an associate member at \$10 per year. Through the NAMA bulletin PSMS will be kept informed about happenings on the national level. NAMA also is looking for a site for its 1976 national foray.

The President thanked the outgoing officers and trustees for their contributions to PSMS. The new officers in turn ask for the support of our members, especially Scott Chilton would like to know what kind of programs you want; and he would also appreciate suggestions for speakers, films, etc. (the excellent Japanese film on mushroom growing was a suggestion from a member, ed.) A newly formed mycological group from Connecticut asked for our bulletin so it can get ideas from our meetings, fieldtrips and other activities.

Note that the Tumwater fieldtrip is an educational fieldtrip with evening lectures and slides. The complete program will come in the May issue.

On the suggestion of the membership chairman the board is surveying the members who have let their membership lapse to find out why they have left PSMS. Preliminary results imply that the members moved or have taken on other commitments.

After investigation it was found that a separate phone listing for PSMS would involve a considerable expense. That most inquiries still come to the Pacific Science Center. From there they are routed to Dr. Patricia Winter (486-4264) or Navarre Orth (523-0586) who have agreed to be PSMS official phone representatives.

Committee Chairmanships so far assigned: Education: Bob Ramsey (Judy Roger, acting till Bob returns from Australia); Membership: Sigrun Budnik; Publications: Monte Hendrickson; Mailing: Chuck & Virginia Kessner; Book Sales: Fred & Helen Wasson; Spore Print Editor: Hildegard Hendrickson; Historical Librarian: Judy Roger; House: Buzz Walters; Publicity: Jerry Cone; Photography: Joy Spurr; Arts & Crafts: Elsie Gatcomb; Fieldtrips: Dave Schmitt assisted by Martin Hansen; Hospitality: Sharon Boehm; Planning Committee: Howard Melsen.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

D. H. Christophersen - 522 - 7222
Celma & Oscar Henn - 778-2796
Roger M. Leed -
Paul Piechalk - 524 - 2957
Carl & Louise Rautenburg - 542-5109

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 1974Milton Grout

The following financial report was prepared by our treasurer Fred Wasson. Fred was struck by an automobile in March and has been in very serious condition. We sincerely hope for his speedy recovery and in the interim I will comment on the financial statements as I see them.

Our society is in good financial condition with a reserve cash balance of \$10,270.03 on December 31, 1974. The cash balance on this date represents the peak for the year as dues for 1975 have mostly been received. Expenses of operations are paid from this balance and no further significant income is received until the October show.

It is, of course, a matter of opinion as to just what the optimum level of cash reserve should be. In my view a reserve of \$10,000.00 would not be excessive. A fund of this size would permit the society to undertake publications, such as the mushroom cookbook, as well as scientific publications, such as the poison pamphlet. Further, the society might consider a mycological scholarship from the income from such a fund. One further advantage of a fairly good size fund is the ability of the society to absorb the risk of having to cancel the show. The committed and irretrievable cost of the show, if there were no gate receipts, is in the neighborhood of \$1,500.00 for printing, posters, equipment rental and storage costs. Quite evidently, most of our revenue is from dues with minor revenue from the sale of books. The annual exhibit in the past has provided revenue of considerable consequence. Last year however, principally due to the unusual dry season, interest, and consequently revenue was fairly nominal.

Our two principal expenditures are for the bulletin and postage followed by a donation to the Pacific Science Center of \$1,200.00 in 1974 in lieu of rent for meetings and classes. We expect all committee heads to be reimbursed, subject to budget and Board limitations for all out of pocket cash costs in connection with their office. I know that many do not fully apply for such reimbursement, if at all. We further, have from time to time made direct donations to students recommended by Dr. Stuntz and have supported organizations directed toward maintaining our outdoor environment. No PSMS member has received compensation for his/her effort. The society is deeply indebted to people like Fred Wasson for the treasury function; the Kessners for the mailing of the bulletin; Sonja Cox for all membership records; Hildegard and Monte Hendrickson for maintaining a professional level in the Spore Prints, to name a few. All of these functions are time consuming and are not as evident as the function of the chairman of the Annual Exhibit, Fieldtrip Chairman, or Banquet Chairman.

As to the future, it appears that our membership is now somewhat in excess of 400. I would like to think that we can maintain a level of between 400 but not in excess of 500. Allowing for singles, the level of dues income should be about \$4,000.00 for the year. Ongoing costs of the bulletin, committee supplies and expenses and continued support of the Pacific Science Center in lieu of rent just about equal dues income. Income from the sale of books, the annual show, and interest if received, permit financial support of projects such as the key committee and the morel committee as well as providing funds for scholarships and environmental support.

DR. STUNTZ was the principal speaker at the January 1975 meeting of the Oregon Myc.Soc. His topic was "Inocybes" These little brown mushrooms have been his main interest for about 40 years. This is a difficult genus and can be identified by microscopic features only.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1974.INCOME

Dues	\$ 5,618.50
Other Gross Receipts (book sales, arts & crafts sales and miscell.sources)	3,118.89
Class Fees	327.50
Share of Gate Receipts (50%) of 1974 Show	1,480.75
Banquet (1974) Gross Receipts	<u>1,809.50</u>
<u>TOTAL INCOME 1974</u>	<u>\$12,355.14</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Books	\$ 1,240.68
Exhibit Expense	3,304.98
Banquet Expense (1974)	2,207.35
Membership Expense	386.77
Donations	1,875.00
Office Supplies and Expense	795.29
Field Trips	153.95
Bulletin	<u>1,216.03</u>
<u>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>\$11,180.05</u>

RECEIPTS IN EXCESS OF DISBURSEMENTS \$1,175.09.

CASH BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1974

Checking Account	\$ 8,033.61
Savings Account	<u>2,236.42</u>
Total Uncommitted Cash	\$10,270.03
Dr. Stuntz Scholarship Fund	500.00

The financial results of the show in 1974 were somewhat disappointing in light of the great effort of the membership to put it on.

1974 SHOW INCOME AND EXPENSE

General Admissions, 2,345 paid	\$2,961.50
PSMS Share thereof is 50%	1,480.75
PSMS Cost of the Show	1,816.14
(Loss on the Show)	(335.39)
Net Income from Book Sales	730.57
Net Income from Arts & Crafts	<u>231.52</u>
<u>NET INCOME FROM 1974 SHOW</u>	<u>\$626.70</u>

Certain fringe benefits are apparent however, in that the vast majority of our membership and their families attended the show with no admission charge. Members of the Pacific Science Center attend without charge and the show fills a community need. The dry season probably curtailed attendance to less than normal levels. Further, we are negotiating with the Science Center with the objective of having the Center assume some of the operating risk as well as direct participation in publicity aspects.

ASPEN MUSHROOM CONFERENCE - AUG. 11 - 15, 1975

The Aspen Mushroom Conference is designed for amateur mycologists and scientists interested in the identification and toxic properties of mushrooms. A distinguished group of Colorado and visiting mycologists will serve as a faculty for the Conference. Experienced leaders will conduct daily forays. Our Jennie Schmitt attended last year and could also give you additional information. Address all inquiries to Aspen Mushroom Conference, Registration Division, 3300 South Wabash Court, Denver, Co., 80231 (phone:303-755-2588)

About 270 persons thoroughly enjoyed both the banquet and the program arranged by Dr. Patricia Winter. "Superb" is the only word to describe the evening's food and program. Every dish (even the fruit salad) contained mushrooms. All the mushrooms were donated; the *Agaricus bisporus*, fresh and marinated (oh were they delicious) by Mr. & Mrs. Carlson of Ostrom the *Cantharellus cibarius*, *boletus edulis* and *morchellas* by generous PSMS members.

Dr. Stuntz's speech on the impact which "a small white fungus" can have on population movements (i.e. the Irish migration to the U.S.) or the transplanting of the growing of coffee from Ceylon to Brazil was both very interesting and unusual. It was a pleasure to see so many of our members kick their heels and dance to the lively tunes played by the Uptown Lowdown Jazzband. As a matter of fact, diners from other parts of the Moose Lodge wanted to join us for the entertainment.

All banquet participants thank Dr. Winter, who was the banquet committee, for an evening we will not soon forget. And Dr. Winter asked me to thank all the nice and generous PSMS members who helped her when called upon; special thanks and praise goes to our many talented artists who provided unique and beautiful table decorations.

Last, but not least, in spite of inflation everywhere else, the ticket price for the banquet was less than in the past, and yet financially, the banquet remained solvent and made a small profit.

MARINATED MUSHROOMS A LA CARLSON H.R.H.

Following is the recipe for the delicious marinated mushrooms which we enjoyed at the banquet and which were donated by Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Carlson (of Ostrom's)

For one pound of fresh, small button mushrooms you need one 8 oz. bottle of Italian Salad Dressing (Mrs. Carlson's favorite is Wishbone, but others will do) and 3 tablespoons of sugar. Combine the mushrooms and dressing and put into a jar with a tight fitting lid. The mushrooms should be completely covered to preserve their color and there should be no air in the jar. The marinating process takes about three days (if you have any mushrooms left by that time) and is faster outside the refer. Here it is for you to try.



The following bit of whimsy was submitted by Jerry Cone (source unknown) and we add that his friends would benefit immensely from a closer association with PSMS.



"I'll never forget the other time I cooked mushrooms on a campin' trip . . . the fast trip to town. . . hours of waiting in the emergency ward. . . stomachs pumped out. . ."

Mystery Mushroom 



Spores: yellow

Cap: dark pits with darker brown to black ridges.

The hollow conic cone ends bluntly, and is grooved before touching the stem. It is 5-10 cm tall, and 2-3 cm wide. The ridges run vertically.

Stem: cream to buff, grooved basally, glandular

Habita: April to June under conifers and their undergrowth. This genera loves burnt ground from the previous summer.

Edibility: a true esculent and safe when cooked thoroughly; so get your baskets ready, spring's around the corner.

Answer: *Morchella angusticeps*

Source: McKenny & Stuntz, *The Savory Wild Mushroom* (U of W Press) p.202

Mystery Mushroom and text by S. Kennedy.

BITS AND PIECES

Your editor and staff very much enjoyed the music and style of the Uptown Lowdown Jazzband that we want to provide you with the name and phone number of its leader, Bert Barr phone: 455 - 4030, if you want to recommend the band as entertainment for other organizations you belong to.

We wish a speedy and successful recovery to Fred Wasson, our past treasurer. Fred was hit by a car and suffered a compound leg fracture among other injuries. Fred, your timing was very poor, you missed our banquet as well as the busy season of your accounting profession.

Our thanks again go to Helen Wasson and Belle Swaffield who on March 12 gave a presentation on mushrooms to the Richmond Beach Garden Club.

HAPPY EASTER AND GOOD HUNTING IN 1975

ROCKPORT FIELDTRIP REPORT Ruby Carmichael

The first outing of the spring season to Rockport was headquartered at the Steelhead County Park. The accommodations included some hook-ups, beautiful location and a very helpful and cooperative Park Ranger. Eleven specimens were on the table and most members found *Verpas*. Even the weatherman was nice and provided sunshine on Saturday. Approximately 102 members and guests showed up for the fabulous potluck. Co-hosts for this fieldtrip were Doug and Ruby Carmichael and Ted and Dorothy Viers. Many thanks to them and all members who made this first fieldtrip of the spring a huge success. It would be nice to have such a closed-in shelter with electric hot-plates for all outings.

NOTICE TO ALL POTLUCK PARTICIPANTS

Everybody who participates and contributes to the potluck is reminded to not forget (1) to bring the **WHEREWITHAL** (i.e. spoons, forks, etc.) to serve their food with, and (2) to take **ALL YOUR THINGS** home with you after the potluck, so the kind hosts do not have to locate you and return your belongings to you. **THIS IS A MUST.**

FIELDTRIP STATISTICS MonteHendrickson

On the morning of April 19 it rained quite heavily, on and off, when we set out for the Tolt River County Campground. But never give up on mushroom hunters. Fifty-one brave PSMS members and friends arrived and signed the fieldtrip book and took off for the soggy woods. Our finds included *Verpa bohemica* (for everybody but one hunter) *Gyromitra esculenta*, *Peziza coccinea* and *nigrella*, a *Nidula* specie as well as one unidentified, tan, gilled fungus, and two *Morchella esculenta* (brought from another area). Our special thanks go to Jack and Navarre Orth (who were co-hosts) and Ed and Ella Cantelon; and Emma Chaplin who time and again took the newcomers under their wings and helped them find their first ever spring mushrooms. We, of course, realize that this new experience will produce avid hunters and more knowledgeable mycologists. The first one-day field trip, even without a potluck (since there is no shelter at the Tolt Campground) was a great success. We recommend that additional one-day fieldtrips within a close distance to Seattle be scheduled. This trip attracted mostly newcomers, and the short distance, despite the rainy day, seemed very appealing.

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TO A TOADSTOOL -- UH -- MUSHROOM

Well! Do Tell!
Are you just an innocent urge to be?
To pop up and sit there under a tree?
With your Lisa smile
Tempt and beguile
A harmless fellow like me?

Are you benign?
Now show your design!
And please be most specific
or, alas! the sad day
for a lusty gourmet
Should you turn out to be malific!

An original poem by Marian Dennis of Portland, Ore., who is a good friend of PSMS member Evie Foliart.

MORE ON MUSHROOM HUNTING IN RUSSIA (The following article appeared in a B.C. paper) AP.

In the cool, clear days of early autumn, Muscovites gather to compare the number and quality of mushrooms they harvested on weekend outings in the forest. Hundreds of varieties of mushrooms appear in Moscow markets. The anchorman of the normally staid evening television news program pulls out a giant mushroom the size of a basketball and enthusiastically discusses its origin.

Mushroom hunting here is more than a diversion. It's a passion, a highly developed skill and a century-old social tradition. The season is short, usually lasting from mid-August through September, but almost everyone gets involved. One Muscovite tells of a friend who spends his entire vacation collecting mushrooms. The fruits of his labor are pickled in two or three big wooden barrels - enough for a whole winter of mushroom feasting.

During the season thousands of people pour into the woods outside of Moscow every weekend. Employees of factories, offices and schools set off in hired buses about midnight on Friday and travel four or five hours to reach a good mushroom-hunting ground. Other hunters crowd on midnight "mushroom trains." The search usually begins at dawn.

"You have to go at least 100 miles outside Moscow to get to good places," said one enthusiast. "Closer, there are too many people and too few mushrooms."

After several hours of poking around with a stick and peering under ferns and leaves, the hunters call it quits for that day and celebrate their finds with lively group picnics, which may include boiling or broiling the mushrooms they found. Then they pile back into the buses and trains for the long ride home. Some most prized finds are the fat, so-called "white" mushrooms, but also popular are "black" mushrooms, "under the birch tree" mushrooms so called because that's where they're usually found.

Some hunters can't tell the difference between edible and poisonous mushrooms. "I often meet people in the woods who ask me to tell them if they can eat what they've picked," said one hunter. "Sometimes, I have to tell them to throw everything out."

Most hunters, however, know the difference. Children are taught at an early age which kinds can be picked. They're often taken on school field trips to the woods to learn first hand. Because the mushroom season is so short, Muscovites indulge in a month-long orgy of mushroom eating. They consume them in many different forms - boiled, fried, in soup, in sour cream and salted. Women's magazines keep coming up with recipes all the time.

Some of the crop is laid aside for drying and marinating for the long winter ahead.

The love for mushrooms has spawned a big, profitable business. Rural residents spend all their time collecting mushrooms during the season, then sell them in the markets and make good profits. One Soviet forest inspector was able to buy a television set, radio, piano, car and many other luxuries with the money he and his family made from selling dried mushroom

THE "PANTHER" STRUCK EARLY THIS YEAR

The Seattle Times reported last Friday that two women were treated for mushroom poisoning at Harborview Hospital after each of them had eaten about four large mushrooms (*Amanita pantherina*) which they had picked on Camano Island. The two women recovered in about 12 hours.

MORE CORRESPONDENCE

Dennis Krabbenhoft

Thank you Mr. Volz. It's not that I'm a close friend of Mr. Volz. As a matter of fact I doubt that he knows me by name. But that can no longer keep me from expressing publicly my thanks to him.

About four years ago I attended my first PSMS mushroom show. My ignorance of all fungi was fascinated by the beautiful array of mushrooms. Gathered around one gentleman of the Society was a number of open-mouthed, attentive people. I elbowed my way into the group and heard and saw the enthusiasm of Mr. Volz as he expounded on the beauty, fragrance, and taste of the Wood Blewit (*Lepista nuda*) he was holding in his hand. His evangelistic ardor was contagious. I determined to hunt and eat at least that one particular beautiful, lavender mushroom.

And I succeeded. I have found dozens of them since. Some so small and young that I felt ashamed to snatch them away at such an early age. Far too many were "over the hill" with maturity. I've scolded myself for not getting to them a week sooner, when they would still have been suitable for the frying pan. But some have been as big as a dinner plate and still fresh and fragrant. Most have been just right maybe four inches across, about that high and delicious. How I love them! I've had them fresh and fried or dried and fried later in the winter. On eggs, in casseroles, on steak, or by themselves; they've become a chief pleasure in life. Thank you, Charlie Volz, for the Wood Blewit.

FOLLOW - UP ON MUSHROOM DYES

H.R.H.

Those of you who attended last year's Annual Exhibit may remember the display of yarns dyed with fungi presented by Carol Higgins. She was very pleased by the support of the membership in that endeavor and wishes to thank you all for both encouragement and contribution of specimens. This includes not only those colorful mushrooms brought to meetings but also the dried fungi sent via the mail. Her mailman has finally gotten used to envelopes which crackle and deposit small amounts of dust and leaves in his letter pouch! The book written by Carol and Cheryl Brooks on natural dyeing has been selling very well, and Carol looks forward to further study into the spring mushrooms and their possibilities as dye stuff. If anyone is interested in details of this fascinating work, please feel free to call her (phone:725-9369) or talk to her at membership meetings.

COLLECTING AND HANDLING OF SPECIMENS

The following excerpts from H. & A. Smith, The Non-Gilled Fleshy Fungi (Wm.C.Brown Co.) should be a help to new (and not so new) members when collecting mushrooms for study or the pot.

The container should be a basket or something shallow, as one should not pile up a collection. Additional items needed are a hunting knife with a thick blade (for prying specimens from wood or digging them out of the ground); a compass; waxed paper for wrapping specimens; pad of note paper and pencil; and clothing suitable for the season (rain gear?) and the fact that you will collect in brushy places.

If the collection is for our exhibit or for study wrap each fruiting body in wax paper.

Dr. Smith gives these DON'TS: never use a plastic bag; never pile up specimens if it can be avoided; never leave specimens in a closed car on a hot day.

The entire article is well worth reading. (ed.)

Mystery Mushroom



Spore

Spores: white

Pileus: tan-white; rounded, soapy feeling; margins irregular at times, 7-15 cm, firm flesh.

Gills: white, touching to slightly decurrent

Stem: cream white; pressure twisted from clustered habits.

Habitat: clay soil, in grass. Fall, occasionally spring.

Edibility: excellent, but care should be taken to avoid the poisonous, pink *Entolomas*. Be sure five or more mushrooms are clumped, as this is another distinguishing characteristic.

Answer: *Lycophyllum multiceps*

Source: McKenny & Stuntz, The Savory Wild Mushroom (U of W Press) p.69

Mystery Mushroom and text by S. Kennedy

CARPOOLING

Monte Hendrickson

I would like some feedback from the membership on carpooling to fieldtrips. I am especially interested to hear from our younger members regarding the "hows" and "wherefores" of overnight accommodations. Since I have been asking our members to share their cars, etc. with other members who do not wish to drive, I felt I should do likewise. I took a young guest (Paul) to Rockport, and to me it was a pleasure doing so. I encourage you to do it too, after all, this is the best way to get to know your fellow PSMS members.

Young (or young at heart) people who have camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc.) but do not wish to drive should also sign up for carpooling. The majority of our fieldtrips are to campgrounds where camping is permitted.

Will the members desiring rides please call me (523-2892) or Doris Paduano (782-8382) during the week before each scheduled fieldtrip - if you want a ride for that trip - as I have no other way to know if you plan to go.