

SPORE PRINTS

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

November 1975

Number 116



REPORT ON THE 12TH ANNUAL EXHIBIT

by Ed Cantelon, General Chairman

The 12th Annual Exhibit was a wonderful, joyous, and noisy success. Approximately 6,500 people paid to be with us for those two afternoons. Actual attendance was higher since most of our PSMS members came, as well as many Pacific Science Center members.

Publicity coverage was very effective this year, due in large measure to the efforts of Jerry Cone assisted by Dr. Patricia Winter in cooperation with the publicity department of the Pacific Science Center.

The displays were real nice. Some genera did not fruit at the time of the Show. Most noticeable was the scarcity of species in the Boletus complex. Heavy fruiting in both Russula and Boletus had occurred a full month earlier. One species not in short supply this year was Matsutake. Never before have we been able to scatter them among the greenery.

I want to heartily thank all of our members who braved the elements on Friday and went out to gather mushrooms. The heavy downpour and storm made the collecting difficult. But they had the attitude, 'the show must go on,' and they came through in the accustomed manner.

PSMS considers itself an amateur Society, but we put on a professional show.

Many dedicated and sincere members worked so many hours. There were too many (all committee heads and all committee members, and all other members who pitched in) for me to mention by name and not leave any one out. Perhaps I can best express my appreciation in making the following wish: Each and everyone who helped may find a prime Edulis (without worms) as big as a washtub, right in your back yard. Those who would have liked to help may find one too (not as large, of course,) and most of all we hope that they can help with next year's show and experience the same satisfied and proud feeling of a job well done.

We heard from the grapevine that we may expect to have the opportunity to produce Exhibit Thirteen on October 16 & 17, 1976. So let's do it.

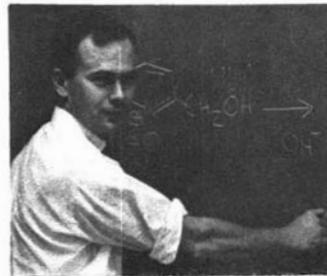
STATISTICS OF THE 12TH ANNUAL EXHIBIT M. Dilly

Total amount of species shown: 261; of these 163 were gilled fungi of the following genera:

Russula 19 species
Agaricus 12 species
Tricholoma 12 species
Lactarius 12 species
Clitocybe 11 species
Pholiota 9 species
Amanita 8 species
Cortinarius 8 species
Hygrophorus 8 species
Inocybe 8 species

The non-gilled fungi included the following genera:
Polypores, Ramaria, Cantharellaceae, and the Boletus-Suillus-Leccinum complex.

V. I. P. PROFILE



We asked our Vice President Scott Chilton to give us profile data for this month. He was born in Philadelphia where he attended public schools. He obtained his B.S. degree at Duke University in 1955, spent 1955-56 on a Fulbright Fellowship at the University of Tübingen in Germany. Then he served 3 years in the Navy on a destroyer in the Atlantic and Mediterranean. After military duty, Scott pursued his graduate studies at the University of Illinois where he earned his Ph.D. in 1963. Since 1963 he is teaching in the chemistry department at the University of Washington.

Professionally Scott has contributed (with his students) to the understanding of the chemistry of mushrooms including (but not limited to) the chemistry of mushroom toxins. This year Scott hopes to work on the chemistry of Tricholoma pardinum and Tricholoma virgatum, if PSMS members help him collect enough of them.

Scott was an invited speaker at the 1975 Aspen Mushroom Conference and has contributed a chapter to the forthcoming book "Mushroom Poisoning" edited by Dr. Emanuel Salzman of the Colorado Mycological Society. Scott has also published articles on mushroom subjects in Pacific Search and NAMA's journal, McIlvainea, and he chaired the PSMS committee that published "Mushroom Poisoning in the Pacific Northwest". Closer to home yet, Scott joined PSMS in 1971, and before serving as Vice President, he was a member of the board of trustees (for 2 years), chairman of the poisoning committee, and currently also is the chairman of the education committee, and organized this year's Cispus II Mycological Foray. As you can see, Scott is a busy person. In his spare time (when does he have any?) he and his wife Mary pursue mountain climbing and field botany.

PSMS members this year have been enlightened through the varied programs Scott has provided for us at the monthly meetings and we hope for many encores.

By the way, should you not recognize Scott on the above picture, the reason is that he is cultivating a beard now, and I shall ask Joy Spurr to photograph him with beard, so that next time we are prepared for both situations.

THANKS, THANKS, THANKS

All Show committee heads want to thank everyone who helped in any capacity to set up, operate, and clean-up after the 12th Annual Exhibit. Due to the scarcity of space in this month's Spore Prints the appreciation has to be global. And since the year is winding down, many committee chairmen of standing committees also extend their thanks to the membership. One of these months we will have to present what every committee does.

H.R.H.



Spore Prints

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ALTERNATES Florence Mals; Helena Kirkwood;
Kathleen Tracey

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz



CALENDAR

Nov. 10 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

Nov. 17 Board Meeting, 8:00 pm

Nov. 21 Deadline for Spore Print Material

Send all articles, art work, photographs, to the
editor, 4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102

Dec. 8 Monday, Membership Meeting 8:00 pm

NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES

Membership Chairman Sigrun Budnik, 16183 S.E. 42nd St.
Bellevue, 98006, phone 747 - 0578, is accepting your mem-
bership renewals for 1976 at this time. Dues are \$10 for family
memberships; \$7 for single memberships, and \$5 for student
memberships. By sending your check to her home address she
receives them gradually and it makes her job easier.

Sigrun wants to let all new members know that she must have
the yellow sheet back (or you are not officially enrolled as
a member. This problem arises mostly when new members en-
roll by mail. So please send it back).

Also if your name is not spelled correctly, either in the roster
or on the mailing envelope, call Sigrun and she will correct it.
The same goes for wrong telephone numbers. And most of all,
do notify her if you move, so you won't miss your Spore Prints.

Membership Meeting

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

Program: Mr. Russ Mohony, author of the book Why Wild
Edibles, will speak on collecting and eating higher plants
in the Puget Sound area. This talk promises to be a real
treat for all of our members who love the outdoors and will
help them find other plants, besides mushrooms, on their
forays.

Advance Notice for the December Meeting: By popular de-
mand the December membership meeting will follow the for-
mat of last year. It will start with Photography Night featur-
ing Joy Spurr's annual popular presentation of color slides
and prints taken by our PSMS members. This will be followed
by a social. The hospitality committee will be calling YOU
and asking you to bring cookies. Better yet, why don't YOU
pick up the phone and call Sharon Boehm, phone 524 - 1602,
evenings, and VOLUNTEER to bring cookies. (I just did, ed.)

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

Proud but still tired from the successful 12th Annual Exhibit,
the Trustees convened for the October board meeting which
was held Monday, October 20th, the day after the Show.
President Milton Grout reported that the Exhibit drew 6,289
paid admissions, plus most of our PSMS members came, plus
an unknown number of Pacific Science Center members who
were admitted by showing their membership cards. The 1975
Exhibit was a financial success. But much more gratifying is
the fact that the turnout by the public was fantastic. And since
the Show is put on through the effort and hard work of our
members, they were assured that their work was appreciated.
People still came to see the show after 6 pm when the Science
Center closed the ticket booth and thanks to Ed Cantelon's
intervention they could.

The Board unanimously passed the resolution "to give sincere
thanks to Jerry Cone (publicity chairman) assisted by
Dr. Patricia Winter, for the best publicity the Society has
experienced for the show."

Book sales were brisk throughout the Show.

Membership Chairman Sigrun Budnik reported that she enrolled
113 new members (63 families; 28 singles and 19 students) and
total PSMS membership at this time is 542.

Jeanie Schmitt reported that 230 persons signed up for the Cis-
pus II Educational Foray (which will be history when you read
this.)

Due to the turn in the weather there will be no more fieldtrips
in November. (Should it warm up again the die-hards might
try their luck on their own. They might find *Lepista nuda*,
Cantarellus cibarius, etc. until it freezes. ed.)



BANQUET NEWS

Doris Paduano

It is not too early to think about our Survivors' Banquet coming
up Saturday, March 20, 1976. Doris Paduano, our Banquet
Chairman, has selected the Moose Lodge again, and by all
indications the price will be close to what we paid last year.
Doris asks all of our members to save some of this fall's mush-
room harvest and donate it to the banquet, so that we again
can have mushrooms in every dish (even the fruit salad).
In future issues of Spore Prints we will keep you informed
about tickets, etc.

SODA SPRINGS FIELDTRIP REPORT

J.Gillen

In spite of apprehension over the weather on Chinook Pass, forty-five members rallied at Soda Springs, October 4 and 5, and were rewarded by an unprecedented bounty of Armillaria ponderosa.

Car trouble of their companions delayed the Hendrickson family in Enumclaw, but they and others arrived after driving through snow on Chinook Pass and pouring rain on the east side. Vic and Dorothy Nendza were the first to find Matsutake, but it was Fay and Howard Melsen who discovered the initial "great patch" of the weekend. When they had gathered enough choice morsels (in pouring rain) Fay paused to "plant" back some of the older fungi (for next year).

Saturday, when the weather was lovely, it was a matter of finding an undiscovered spot and gathering (or choosing) enough young Matsutake to fill a bucket or to satisfy one's needs. One member took off his coat to carry his harvest in. Other than Matsutake, over fifty various species were brought in, identified and arranged by Howard Melsen and Jack Orth into an interesting exhibit around the shelter.

Navarre and Jack Orth co-hosted with Joan and Howard Gillen, but many hands helped with firewood, potluck and cleanup. Thanks to all. And thanks to Jack Orth for the slide show made possible by the use of his projector connected to his car battery.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS FIELDTRIP REPORT

Jennie Schmitt

PSMS was host to 2 clubs on this fieldtrip held September 27-28, 1975. The Tacoma Mushroom Club come up to join us; and the Continental Club (a social and travel club) turned out in force for its first ever mushroom outing. Many Continental Club members have roots in Europe and wanted to find Boletus edulis. On this trip however, they were introduced to Armillaria ponderosa, Armillaria mellea and Boletus aurantiacus. Everybody found a lot of mushrooms.

Brian Luther and Charles Volz (ably assisted by Jennie, ed.) were the official I.D. men. Thanks a lot fellas. They indentified 109 species.

PSMS members turned out in full force and 112 stayed for a big potluck. 75 families signed the register but we don't know how many of them were our guests (I goofed and did not have a guest page.) Thanks to Bill and Pauline Pollard and all the ladies who pitch in at dinner time. We had plenty of coffee and cookies.

The Continental Club offered PSMS members overnight accommodations at their Hyak Berghaus nearby, and several members slept there. We are sorry to say though that the road to the Berghaus was not marked well enough and we had a hard time finding it. (How do we find our way around in the woods?) After dinner Howard Melsen gave a talk and showed slides at the Berghaus. Several Continental Club members are now ready to seek other species of mushrooms, besides edulis, and have joined PSMS.

DALLES FIELDTRIP REPORT

H.R.H.

Since nobody turned in a report about the fieldtrip to the Dalles Forest Camp October 11 - 12, 1975 I will jar my memory and see what I can come up with.

My family left Seattle Friday afternoon and nearly drove by the camp since the Forest Service had removed the sign pointing to the campground. Several families, including Bill and Pauline Pollard, had already arrived, a sign that the Dalles is a popular area.

Monte and I immediately scouted the surroundings for A. pon-

derosa because I wanted some to put into the meatloaf which I planned for the potluck. We were lucky and found a few prime specimens.

On Saturday members of the Pacific Science Center joined us and many were looking for mushrooms for the first time. They were escorted by our PSMS members and treated to our known friendliness and helpfulness.

Saturday coincided with the opening of deer-hunting season and many of our members retreated to Mount Rainier National Park for their search of fungi. The recent rains had brought on the fruiting of many specimens (all identified by Jennie Schmitt) but it was "slim picking" for the pothunter who found Armillaria ponderosa, Lactarius deliciosus, Lyophyllum decastes, Hericium and some Boletus aurantiacus.

I don't have any statistics, but the delicious potluck was well attended, and after dinner all remembered my birthday with a lovely card and song. Jack Orth (who had entertained us at Soda Springs with mushroom slides, including shots under the microscope) this time showed very interesting slides on stars. The rest of the evening we exchanged mushroom and other tales around the campfire in the shelter.

More fungi were gathered on Sunday, and we left thinking about the busy week ahead, when we prepared for the Annual Exhibit.

CALLING ALL CAMERA FANS AGAIN

Joy Spurr

By popular demand we will have another photography night at the December membership meeting. This is not a contest. We are not going to be concerned about nitty-picky regulations. We just want to show YOUR slides, prints, etc. Your photograph is your very own creation. If you like it that is all that matters.

We will project the 35 mm color slides. If you have large prints (either black & white or color) we will find a place to hang them. If you have small prints there will be plenty of table space. There will be time for each participant to talk about his/her photos.

One little rule: put your name on your slide or print. It is preferable to have the mushroom properly identified.

Everyone who has pictures to show should contact Joy Spurr at the November membership meeting or by phone 723-2759.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Leland Bartley

Here is how you can have a very efficient dryer without having anything that takes up any space and costs very little.

The heart of the dryer is what is called a	
Plug-In-Strip with cord attached	\$2.00
Four socket adapters for light bulbs	2.32
Four 75-watt light bulbs	1.84
One square yard aluminum screen	1.65
	<u>\$7.81</u>

Soles tax .43

(bought recently in a Seattle store) Total: \$8.24

The aluminum screen is wrapped around and fastened to the shelves in your range oven. The four socket adapters for the light bulbs are plugged into the plug-in strip with attached extension cord. The four light bulbs are then screwed in the socket adapters.

The fungi are spread on the screened oven shelves and the plug-in-strip with the light bulbs is placed under the shelves and plugged into the range outlet and the oven door is closed. The amount of heat can be varied by the use of larger or smaller bulbs. You have nothing to store and a very efficient dryer.

MUSHROOMS AS CANCER CURES

Two articles appeared recently which claimed that mushrooms can be used as antitodes.

One report (from the prestigious American Journal of Pathology) claims that researchers are "extremely excited" about an experimental cancer drug made from the common mushroom. "We believe we have the basis for an anti-tumor drug more potent than any in use at the moment," declared Dr. F. Stephen Vogel of Duke University, head of the research team which has been working for 15 years to solve the chemical mysteries of the mushroom.

His research team isolated two compounds in the mushroom spore and discovered that when the compounds were applied to tumor cells in a tissue culture, the metabolism of the cells was switched off. The next step was to expose tumor cells to the compounds and inject the cells into mice. "We found that the compounds completely inhibited the growth of tumors in the mice."

In more laboratory experiments, mice were injected with deadly tumor cells and left for four days before receiving the compounds. The treated mice survived an average of 16 days while mice that didn't receive the compounds lasted an average of only 10.8 days.

The team is now working on a method to refine the compounds so that they will completely prevent the growth of tumors in mice. "Our theory is that to stop cancer tumor you don't have to wipe out all the tumor cells. It's probably sufficient to kill off some of the cells in order to help the body's natural defense mechanism destroy the tumor itself.

ANOTHER article (printed in the July-August 1975 issue of The Mycophile, the official publication of N.A.M.A.) from Scotland reported by the Edinburgh Evening Express and the Press-Journal tells that Dr. Derek Reid, a mycologist at the Royal Botanical Gardens, was asked to help find a fungus for treating cancer in the daughter of a friend. The friend was a Russian emigre and had read of the famous author, Alexander Solzhenitsyn's claim of a cancer cure by the use of a fungus. Dr. Reid enlisted the help of Dr. G. Hadley of Aberdeen University Botany department. Recalling the story from Solzhenitsyn's novel of his personal cure of cancer while in prison in Siberia by the use of a fungus obtained from numerous birch trees. Solzhenitsyn was contacted in Switzerland. He described the fungus as best he could from memory and noted that at least 15 pounds of the fungus was needed for treatment. Dr. Reid set out for Scotland on what he felt was a million-to-one chance of finding the right fungus. In the northern mountains he found many birch trees and collected on abundant supply. We have no report on how the treatment turned out. Dr. Reid has said that he does not wish to raise false hope, but in the view of the long success of the treatment in Russia there may be some help for his friend's daughter in her serious plight. (The fungus used in the treatment is Inontus obliquus found in some texts as Poria obliqua. It is not too common but is distributed widely in the northern hemisphere). Members of N.A.M.A. attending the European Foray may learn the sequel to this story in Scotland as both Dr. Reid and Dr. Hadley will take part in the program.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE MEMBER ROSTER

Enclosed with this issue of Spore Prints you find a list with the names and phone numbers of our new members who have joined PSMS since last month. Note the handy size of the insert, it just fits into your roster. Put it there - don't lose it - so you can contact the new members.

MATSUTAKI HUNTER

G.W.R.

The following poem appeared in the October 1972 issue of Spore Prints and is reprinted here since the current season for Matsutaki needs immortalization.

I'm walking but my eyes are on the ground
I'm looking for the little tell-tale mound
The slit of white, the scent, the sight
So I can probe to see what I have found.
It is the Armillaria I seek
I shall return to hunt again next week
And when I've filled my box I'll hunt yet more
To bring back larger bags than ere before
Yet, still there is a reason for my greed
It is the recognition that I need
So I will share what I bring in
With friend or neighbor and with kin
So they can well inspect the prize
And fix the dish they idolize
Yet while they sup and talk of all the rest
They'll have to say for sure that I'm the best
And so I'll walk for miles on and on
To quit at dusk and start again at dawn
Walking with my eyes glued to the ground
Looking for that little tell-tale mound.

MORE ON MATSUTAKI

The Seattle P. I.

The following article appeared in the Seattle P.I. on Oct. 24, 1975:

Each fall for the past 10 years, Seattle's Japanese community has conducted a contest to find the largest Ponderosa Pine mushroom, a delicacy that figures significantly in Japanese cuisine (so significantly that it's often shipped fresh by local people to California, where the mushroom doesn't grow, and to relatives in Japan).

This season a bumper crop is expected, thanks to the rain, and already a one-pound, 11-ounce monster has been displayed in the window at Sagamiya's confectionary shop.

Minoru Mihara picked that buff-colored gem and another weighing one-pound, three-ounces in the Cascades. But officials such as Terumitsu Kono of the newspaper, the North American Post, don't expect those two specimens to necessarily be the winners.

"One year we had a mushroom that weighed in at four pounds." Kano explained. "We still have a month to go before we pick a winner, so who knows?"

A trophy will be awarded by the Japanese Consulate General here. Mushrooms gathered in the competition will grace the tables at the Japanese Nursing Home and will be given to others of the Japanese community who are shut-ins.

WERE YOU THERE?

Monte Hendrickson

While fresh in mind I would like to give with roses and/or brickbats, whichever applies. There is no doubt in anybody's mind that we had a quality Show this year, 'professional' in the words of our general show chairman, and we should be very proud of our accomplishment. But I wish to point out that this is strictly a volunteer effort (no paid help of any kind) and year after year I have seen mostly familiar faces (too few do the majority of the hard work of setting up, operating and clean-up) and these some people worked on several committees and tasks. If our fine Show is to continue in the quality that we and the public have come to expect, we need more of the newer members to get involved. You can be assured that your few hours of participation will bring you good fellowship and new friends in return. Hope to see YOU there next year.