

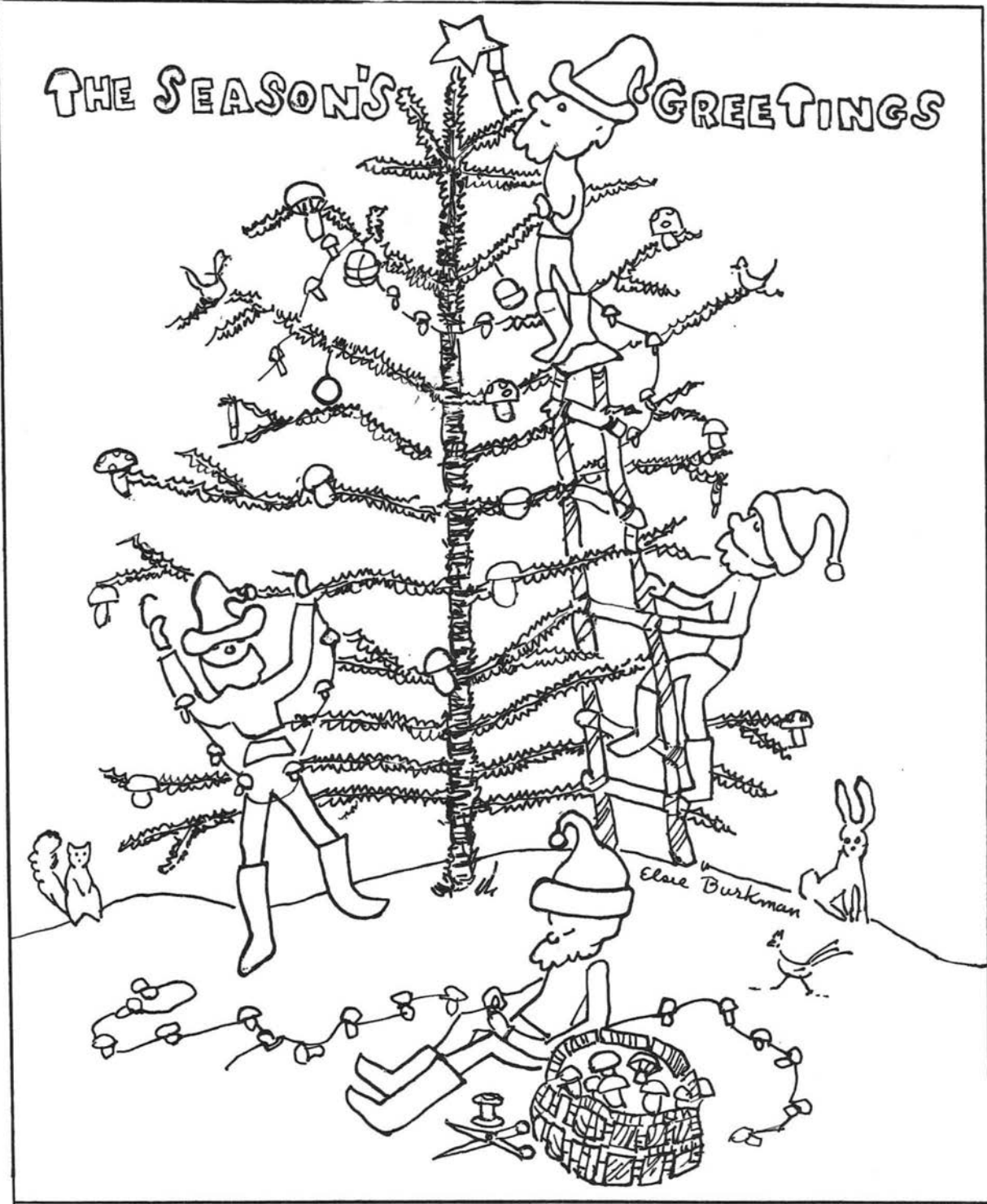
12/75

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109
December 1975 Number 117



THE SEASON'S GREETINGS





Spore Prints

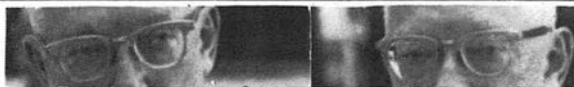
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4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102.

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ALTERNATES Florence Mals; Helena Kirkwood;
Kathleen Tracey

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz



CALENDAR

- Dec. 8 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
Dec. 22 Board Meeting
Dec. 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
Jan. 12 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
March 20 Saturday, The 12th Annual Survivors' Banquet

WANTED: CLIPPINGS OF ARTICLES H.R.H.

Your editor and Hugo Kopta, historian for our Society, would appreciate receiving from members clippings of articles on mushrooms and related subjects, or on activities of PSMS or its members for Spore Prints and the PSMS Scrapbook.

LOST AND FOUND

Has anyone found a "real navy watch cap" lost (presumably) in the dining room at Cispus? Sally Ann Hansen's son misses it very much. Please call her at 246 - 2673.
There are some articles left on the various fieldtrips. If they are not claimed by the end of the year, they are donated to a worthy cause.

Membership Meeting

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

Program: Photography Night - Followed by a Social Hour
Again this year, Joy Spurr has arranged a special treat for us. The favorite mushroom- and people pictures taken by our PSMS members have been selected and will be presented with narration by the photographers.
After viewing the beautiful photographs and slides, a Social Hour with coffee and cookies prepared by our members is scheduled so that we can meet fellow PSMS members (old and new) and exchange mushroom and other tales.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The November Board Meeting, barely achieved a quorum since many members were ill, was chaired by Vice President Scott Chilton. (Our President was out of town on business).
Scott Chilton, our program chairman, would like to schedule the discussion of a genus for the January Membership Meeting but at this time neither the genus nor the discussor has been identified. Any suggestions from the membership?
Next, reports from the various committees were heard.
After considerable discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried that PSMS should remain a member of the Washington Environmental Council and pay the required annual dues, but to not make any additional contribution.
Doris Paduano presented her proposal for the 12th Annual Survivors' Banquet. The price per ticket will remain at \$7.50 as last year because the Board voted to underwrite the expense for entertainment. Doris asked for help with the table decorations (call her at 782-8382) as well as mushroom donations since she again this year plans to include mushrooms in every dish. (This is a hint to all of us, to keep some dried, frozen or canned mushrooms until March, and not consume them all before.)

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Ayres, 784 - 8140
Frank & Mary Backus, 365 - 3348
Patsy Burnett Carter, 322 - 2325
Mr. & Mrs. Hedahl, 542 - 8329
Mr. & Mrs. K. Lane, 486 - 8028
Victoria Larson, 283 - 7896
Mr. & Mrs. McVay, 321 - 4382
Mary Michaelson, 762 - 0477
Laura & Jon Noble, 282 - 7903
Dieter & Elizabeth Nowak, 285 - 0834
Patricia Opatz, 282 - 0740
John & Shirley Pauls, 774 - 3145
Paul & Mina Perron, 941 - 0207
Maj. & Mrs. R. Rayburn, 582 - 4004
Dennis R. Sampson, 346 - 6639
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schwartzman, 323 - 5500

BANQUET

Doris Paduano

The 12th Annual Banquet will be held Saturday, March 20th 1976 at the Moose Lodge (located across the street from the Seattle Center Parking Garage). The price per ticket is \$7.50 (the same as last year). Since only 400 persons can be accommodated, we urge you to get your tickets early (first come - first served.)
Sigrun Budnik and Sally Ann Hansen will have tickets at the December membership meeting.

This educational foray was held October 24 - 26 at the Washington State Environmental Learning Center on the Cispus River in southwestern Washington. The site is at 1200 feet elevation between Mount Adams and Mount Rainier. Despite rainy weather and a 3000 foot snowline, the 210 attendees brought in more than 300 different species. Of these, 297 were identified to species by the five professional mycologists and ten amateur specialists of the northwestern regional Key Council.

Dr. David Largent, Humboldt State College, gave a slide talk on mushrooms of northern California, and showed some of his most artistic slides. Dr. Daniel Stuntz, University of Washington, gave a talk on the evolution of the Friesian System illustrated with photographs of famous 19th century mycologists. Dr. Alexander Smith, U. of Michigan, spoke on the evolution of the pileus, pointing out the resemblance of some variant *Clavariadelphus* to some of the *Cantharellus*. Dr. Edmund Ty-lutki, U. of Idaho, compared the distribution of mushrooms found at Cispus I to the haul at Cispus II. Dr. David Hosford, Central Washington State College, reviewed the wide diversity of *Gasteromycetes* encountered on passing from the arid Columbia Basin to the Cascade Crest. In a late evening session Jonathan Ott recounted his experiences during the past twelve months in quest of native uses of mushrooms in Mexico.

The Key Council held a regional meeting during the Foray at which several additional members were recruited to prepare keys for one or more genera specifically oriented to species which occur in the northwest.

The Cispus II Committee consisted of Scott Chilton, chairman, Judy Roger, Publicity and Microscopy, Jennie Schmitt, Registrar and Treasurer, and Coleman Leuthy, Mushroom Display. Joy Spurr set up the photography center and Kit Scates coordinated the activities of the Key Council. Members of the Key Council participating in the Identification Session were: Ben Woo - *Russula*; Charles Volz - *Tricholoma* and related genera; Don Goetz - *Amanita*; Margaret Dilly - *Agaricus*; George Rafanelli - *Paxillus*; Marjorie Mason - *Cantharellus* and related genera; Kit Scates - *Boletes* and *Ramaria*; Christel Goetz - *Phaeocollybia*; Fred Van De Bogart - *Coprinus*; Dan Stuntz - *Inocybe*; Harold Treibs - *Gyromitra*, and Fay Melsen, Recorder. Mike Beug and Howard Melsen assisted Coleman Leuthy in directing novices to the correct identification tables.

Dennis Jablonski, Assistant Director of the Center, and the staff of Cispus showed great flexibility and ingenuity in assisting the Cispus II Committee.



TREES OF WASHINGTON Sally Ann Hansen

When just learning to hunt mushrooms, certain kinds of trees are mentioned in relation to various mushrooms. The Dept. of Agriculture has a book, Trees of Washington, free, that describes 30 trees. It gives a key, two pages of leaf types, and each page describes buds, twigs, bark, wood, fruit, size, growth, location and other important characteristics. It is in black and white. It might be something to get into during the winter months. It is bulletin #440 and the phone number in Seattle is 344 - 2686. In supplement to reading the above book, you might call Discovery Park (583 - 2254) and ask when they will have the next walk which emphasizes trees. On such a walk a small magnifying glass is provided to examine the needles, bark, stem.

The primary purpose of the annual Stuntz Foray is to get the professional mycologists together so that they exchange reports, talk about on-going projects, relate ideas, discuss taxonomic and physiological problems and progress, and in general just YAK at each other.

The professors bring graduate and other interested students to meet and acquaint themselves with professors and each other. Sometimes students find a suitable professor with whom they may wish to continue their graduate studies. Another part of the foray is to collect, observe, identify, and discuss unknown forms and variations of the fungi and related flora. This year we went to the Meany Ski Hut of the Seattle Mountaineers located at Martin (eastern portal of the Northern-Pacific - Burlington Northern tunnel) near Stampede Pass. The facilities were ideal for the primary purpose of the foray -- an isolated area, single kitchen and dormitories. With nowhere to go, conversations and good exchange of information did occur. Everyone was together. Excellent food was prepared by the generous help of the Hut staff and friends. This certainly furthered the success of the foray.

Collecting also was good and a large number of interesting species were observed. More display tables and better light would have helped, although no one had any real problem with the identification work. A photography area was set up and operated by Ben Woo and Joy Spurr. Specimens of interest were recorded on film for further study and showing at programs.

In attendance were Daniel E. Stuntz, Scott Chilton of the UW, George Carroll - U of Oregon, Dave Largent - Humboldt State College, Ca., David Gotelle - CSCS, Ca., David Hosford - CWSC, Wa., Steven Pollock, MD, - Texas, Kit Scates - Key Council, Ida., Harry Thiers - S.F. State, Ca., Jim Trappe - USDA, Corvallis, Ore., Fred Van de Bogart, UW, Marcia Wicklow - Boise State U, and the crop of forthcoming mycologists totalling about 54 in all. My apologies to any PHD I may have omitted from the list.

Professor Stuntz was - and I have heard from him that a number of the others were - quite pleased with the outcome of the foray held October 10 - 12, 1975.



FREEZE - DRYING PROCESS H.R.H.

It came to my attention during the Annual Exhibit that there was a great deal of interest in the freeze - dry exhibit, because people thought that the process could be repeated at home. So I contacted Dr. Stuntz, and what follows is his explanation of this complex process.

For the freeze-drying process specimens must be frozen very quickly. To accomplish this they are dipped in either liquid nitrogen or a mixture of acetone and dry ice. When frozen in this way, small ice crystals form which prevent the cells from breaking up.

The frozen specimens must be kept at below zero degrees (F.) or put into a special dryer which has a chamber that can be kept below zero degrees. This chamber is put under a high vacuum (at least 10 microns) to remove the moisture. Morels, which are small, will dry in 24 - 36 hours. The bolete on display at the exhibit took almost a week to dry in the vacuum chamber.

When removed from this chamber the mushrooms have retained their natural form and color. In this state they are extremely fragile, but with careful handling and storing they keep for several years.

JEFFERSON COUNTY MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
SHOW #2: A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS Brian Luther

On Sunday, October 12, the JCMS, headed by John D. Parker (also a member of PSMS) opened the doors to the public for what I would call the finest small-group organized mushroom show I've ever seen. As last year, there was no admission fee. John and his wife, Frieda, informed me that 342 persons signed the register with at least just as many more who didn't. This year's show was held at Ft. Worden State Park (in Port Townsend) within a well-equipped, warm, dry building, where it will be held in future years as well. Throughout the Sunday show people could have any mushroom they might have brought with them identified; the book sales department was operated (solely) by Pam Luther. Needless to say, she was kept very busy.

Hundreds of beautiful specimens were brought in on Saturday for identification. They had been collected in the local area, the Olympic Mountains, and even in Eastern Washington. Brian identified 164 different species which were set out for the Sunday show. Of those, 62 species were edible, 81 potentially dangerous, and 21 unequivocally poisonous.

On Saturday, John Parker took me and Pam to some areas where I collected many unusual and relatively rare species for Western Washington. One of these was the Parrott Mushroom, Hygrophorus psittacinus. But the main agenda for Saturday involved arranging tables and setting up excellent signs (made by John) and getting things organized for the show. John Parker personally deserves one heck of a lot of credit for his efforts in organizing the entire show. JCMS members brought in the specimens, which after identification, were placed on the moss-covered tables.

After much of Saturday's work was completed, a delicious potluck was held by the JCMS members. After the potluck was well under way, we had a surprise visit by Bill Huckins and his mobile organ. Bill backed his organ rig into a loading entrance of the building and played many favorites as well as requests. What a treat!

Many JCMS members helped in various capacities to make the Sunday Show terrific. The show made a lot of people happy, but I felt it was unfortunate that so few PSMS members came. Ft. Worden is fully equipped for camper hook-ups for those of you with RVs and all other facilities are very modern. So, maybe John Parker and his JCMS group will see you there next year for the Third Annual Show.



BOOKS

Irene O'Connor (a PSMS member) and Marion P. Harthill have published a book, Common Mosses of the Pacific Coast this year. If you cannot get it in a local book store, Irene will be happy to mail you a copy for \$3.30 ppd. In a recent issue of Search Magazine, Dr. Stuntz wrote a favorable review of this book.

DUES FOR 1976 ARE DUE S. Budnik

Your membership dues for 1976 have to be received by the membership chairman, Sigrun Budnik, by January 31, 1976 or your name will be removed from our mailing list and you will not be receiving future Spore Prints and other PSMS privileges. Sigrun will be at the December Membership Meeting or you can mail in your check.

Note to our NEW PSMS members. If you have joined during the last months of this year (1975) your dues are paid until the end of 1976. So the above reminder does not apply to you.

OAK PATCH FIELDTRIP REPORT R. White

We were welcomed again this year to the Oak Patch Camp by Andy and Betty Yuhl. The grounds have been developed around an artificial lake to serve as a recreation area and half-way-house primarily for use by retarded adults. The camp and surrounding forested area is an ideal place for hunting mushrooms at this time of year.

On Saturday, Dave and Jennie Schmitt, who have a cabin nearby, arrived early and helped Andy and Betty set up the mushroom display room and start the coffee. The weather cooperated quite well, making it an enjoyable hunt for the approximately 50 - 60 people who participated. Jennie ably identified 88 species, including 24 genera. There were 11 species that were not identified. Of the 22 species identified for the pot, Boletus aurantiacus (L. aurantiacum) was collected in the greatest quantity. Some other notables were Lepista nuda (Woods Blewit), Ramaria (Coral), several Boletes, and even a few Matsutake.

The delicious Saturday evening potluck was attended by about 30 tired mushroom hunters and guests from Oak Patch Camp. Betty even whipped up a fresh apple cobbler for the group. The Martin Hansen's and Rick White combined their chablis wine and apple cider into a delightful drink appropriately dubbed "chwider" (it was delicious).

We can't say too much for the second day of the outing. We were rained out.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR Bill & Irene O'Connor

By this time you've heard that Cispus II was an outstanding success and speaking for the two of us, it was a truly memorable event. Only one little thing could have been different: Neither Scott Chilton nor Alexander Smith received recognition on the program. Perhaps that could be corrected in the next bulletin. Scott was the coordinator of the whole foray - and did a perfect job - and Dr. Smith told of the evolution of mushrooms, a very interesting talk, as were all the others.

MORE CORRESPONDENCE Judy Roger

A big thank you is due Scott Chilton for an outstanding job of organizing and coordinating the Cispus II Foray. He began planning it when Education Chairman for PSMS last year. The Foray ran very smoothly and was a big success because of Scott's thorough organizing effort.

Jennie Schmitt also deserves a big thanks for taking such meticulous care of the large number of registrations and seeing that everybody was checked in and accommodated.

BITS AND PIECES: Coming in future spore prints will be a picture of Martin Hansen's giant Boletus edulis; a report of mushroom awareness walk to Seward Park by Brian Luther; a mushroom puzzle by Sally Ann Hansen.

Many thanks to Elsie Burkman who contributed the beautiful drawing for the cover page.

The following PSMS members held classes on mushrooms this fall: Dr. Stuntz at the UW.; Milton Grout & George Rafanelli at the Pac. Science Center; Jennie Schmitt in Renton; Howard Melsen, one in Everett and one in Lynnwood; and Judy Roger at Sealth Hi.; If the number of classes on mushrooms held this fall is any indication of the interest in fungi, in the Seattle area, the indicator is very high. So much for this year.

==== MERRY CHRISTMAS ====

to all PSMS members from your editor and "staff"