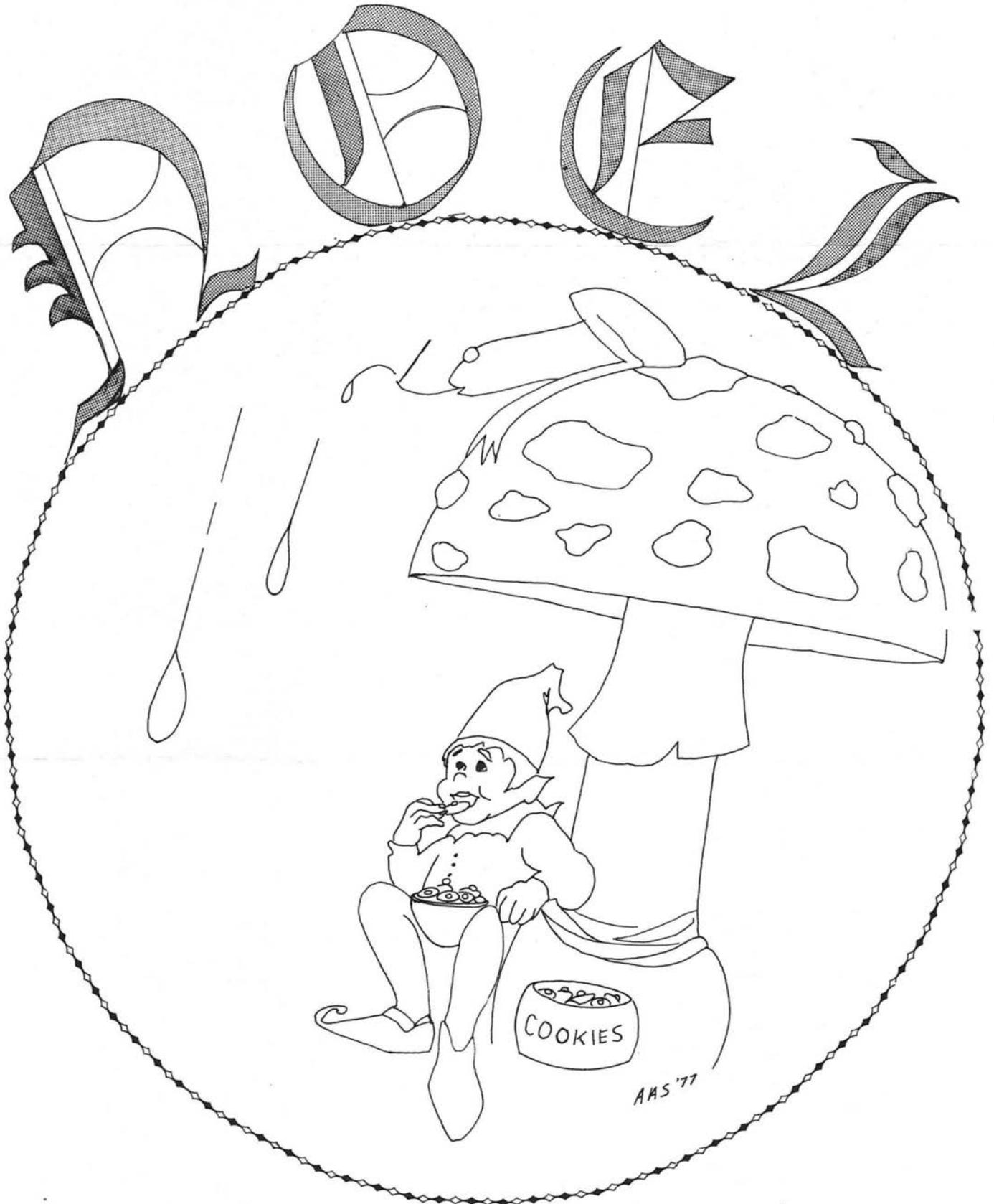


# SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109  
December 1977 Number 137





# P. S. M. S. Spore Prints

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## Calendar

Dec. 5 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm  
NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHANGE FROM THE  
REGULAR DATE

Dec 19 Board Meeting, 8:00 pm (cancelled)

Dec 23 Deadline for Spore Print Material; Send all  
articles, art work, photographs to the editor,  
4029 E. Madison, Seattle, Wa., 98102

Jan 9 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

March 11 Saturday, The 14th Annual Survivors' Banquet

### DUES FOR 1978 ARE DUE

Your membership dues for 1978 should be sent to our member-  
ship chairman, Joy McKnight, as soon as possible (that means  
immediately) or this will be the last issue of Spore Prints you  
will receive, as well as the many other PSMS privileges.  
Joy will be at the December membership meeting and you can  
pay in person; or send your checks (for membership only -  
don't include the money for the banquet) to her address :  
5610 South 121st, Seattle, Wa., 98178. Dues are \$10. for  
family memberships; \$7. for single memberships, and \$5. for  
full-time student memberships.

Note to our NEW MEMBERS: If you have joined PSMS since  
September 1977 your dues are paid up through 1978, and the  
above notice does not apply to you.

## Membership Meeting

Monday, December 5, 1977, 8: pm, Eames Theater,  
The Pacific Science Center.

**NOTE! DATE CHANGE**

Program: Photography Night - Followed by a Social Hour.

Again this year we continue this popular program. Ed Cante-  
lon has selected the favorite mushroom and/or people pictures  
taken by our members. They will be presented with a short  
narration by the photographers.

After viewing the photographs and slides, a Social Hour with  
cookies and coffee will follow to introduce the Christmas  
Season and so that we can get better acquainted with our  
"old" and "new" members. Be sure to attend.

Helen Wasson will have books for sale BEFORE the meeting.  
Remember, members get a discount. They make wonderful  
presents.

NOTE: Anyone who wants to show slides or photographs, and  
has not yet contacted Ed Cantelon should do so immediately  
by calling 242-6115.

AND DON'T FORGET TO BRING THE COOKIES !

### THINK ELECTIONS

At the December Membership Meeting, President Jack Orth  
will announce the members of the election committee, who  
are charged in presenting the membership with a slate of  
candidates for the coming elections. YOU can make the job  
of this committee a great deal easier by volunteering for an  
office.

### RECIPES

H.R.H.

By popular request, your editor is now collecting the recipes  
we all raved over during potlucks or the Annual Exhibit, and  
will present them in future issues. That is, if the creators of  
these delicious dishes are willing to share them with us. I do  
have a few, but urge our members to supply me with the  
others. You know, if you have been approached during a pot-  
luck, then please send me that recipe.

THANK YOU AGNES SIEGER

H.R.H.

The beautiful drawing on the cover of this issue was contribu-  
ted by our very talented associate editor, Agnes Sieger.

BANQUET NEWS

Louise Rautenberg

The evening promises to be a gala event for all at the 14th  
Annual Spring Banquet to be held at the Sandpoint Officers'  
Club on Lake Washington, on Saturday, March 11, 1978.  
Making the evening an extra-ordinary event will be the in-  
ternational costumes all you talented people out there will  
be wearing. Yep, a genuine costume ball!

Plan to attend in the costume of your ancestral heritage or  
that of your favorite country. Did you know you have at least  
153 to choose from? If you are not inclined to outdo your  
neighbor in gorgeous array, plan to attend any way in good  
old USA - attire (if you wish), either country-western or  
purple socks.

There will be live music and entertainment. Tickets are still  
\$7.50 per person, and will be available at the December  
membership meeting and by mail from Sally Ann Hansen,  
10433 - 1st Ave. SW., Seattle, Wa., 98146. Please enclose  
a self-addressed, stamped return envelope with your order.  
Save the date, Saturday, March 11, 1978 and get started on  
those international outfits.

Not until this late date, and only at the persistent nagging of your Spore Prints Editor are we sitting down to render this report of the 1977 Stuntz Foray. This year, we were at Payette Lake on September 16 to 18, on the grounds of the University of Idaho Forestry Camp, in McCall, Idaho. This year's host was Marcia Wicklow, mycologist at Boise State University. The event is the annual gathering of West Coast teaching mycologists (many of whom trained under Dr. Stuntz), together with their graduate students and a few amateurs fortunate enough to be honored with invitations. The Foray is always stimulating, often educational, sometimes controversial and occasionally alcoholic.

Attendance this year turned out to be sparse, partly because of the remoteness of the area, but mostly because travel budgets had already been hard hit by the almost obligatory participation in the Second International Mycological Congress at Tampa, Florida, two weeks earlier. None the less, some forty or so dedicated Stuntzians gathered in McCall, braving heavy snow and battering rains that came too late to overcome the effects of a year's drought. Collecting that, one year earlier, at the NAMA Judson Boone Foray in the same locality, had been fabulous, was merely okay, with many species only just beginning to break through the dusty duff.

For us Puget Sounders, the road home included a memorable side trip, undertaken at the suggestion of Dr. Stuntz. Outside of Riggins, Idaho, a winding dirt road climbed seven miles to a viewpoint amidst brooding rock peaks called Seven Devils. From there could be seen vast chunks of the states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Behind us was the winding canyon of the Salmon River. At our feet to the west was the vast chasm of Hell's Canyon. In the distant was the unmistakable gleam of Mt. Hood, and farther to the north a faint white pimple that seemed to be Mt. Adams. We could almost see the Space Needle!

Those from our parts attending included, of course, Dr. Stuntz, Fred VanDeBogart, Judy Roger, Susan Libonati-Barnes, Gustavo and Maria Escobar, and your servant.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY MUSHROOM SHOW J. Parker

The JCMS held its fourth annual free mushroom exhibit at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend on October 23, 1977 with approximately 700 interested people attending.

Ed and Ella Cantelon spent two days identifying 158 species and did a fantastic job answering hundreds of questions about mushrooms. We are grateful to them for their help, because without which our humble show could not have been the tremendous success it was.

We were happy to welcome so many of our old friends from PSMS, especially Howard and Fay Melsen, who also helped us in every way possible.

We were glad that the weather was so nice to the ones who chose to camp out on the beach in front of the exhibit building. On Saturday evening, before the Show opened to the general public, a fine potluck dinner was held for our members and our friends from PSMS and KPMS. Many of the dishes contained mushrooms, and we kept coming back for 'seconds' and 'thirds'. There was plenty for all.

One Amanita solitaria displayed measured 10" across and was 14" tall. A Prince was found not far from the exhibit building that was 17" across the cap and 12" high. It was a skimpy season for our usually plentiful Chanterelles, but a bountiful year for Armillaria ponderosa.

We are already planning another show for next year, and hope even more PSMS members will come over to join us.

Americans are eating record numbers of mushrooms, and the fresh and canned prices for the fungi, which like humans take in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide, have been rising steadily.

This, one might think, would make for an altogether happy United States mushroom industry.

U.S. mushroom canners, however, like U.S. shoe and television manufacturers, are threatened by imports from Asia and have been seeking federal government protection from the lower-priced Taiwan and South Korean canned buttons, stems and pieces.

The canners' wounds smart all the more because they believe it was the U.S. government - through its foreign-aid program - that got Taiwan and South Korea started as mushroom growers and canners.

The Agency for International Development never thought where the Asian mushrooms would be sold, complain the U.S. canners, who have seen their share of the U.S. market slip from more than 80 per cent to 55 per cent in 15 years. In the year ended June 30, 1976, the import share of the market came to \$46.2 million.

Over the years, some American mushroom processors have been going out of business, but others have entered the field. 'It doesn't look as if the industry is really falling apart,' an official said.

#### MUSHROOM CULTIVATION BY THE SAN FRANCISCO MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A mushroom culture group was started by about a dozen members at the beginning of the last season. At first they discussed methods and problems of mushroom culture, prepared sterile culture media, learned the use of the microscope as an aid in identifying contaminants and each member started spawn cultures of the species of his/her choice. As the season progressed they shared successful cultures and methods. One member built an enclosed, insulated mushroom growing room at the back of his garage. He then composed a huge pile of horse manure, put it into boxes, pasteurized it and seeded it with spawn. He is growing Lepiota naucina, Agaricus rodmanii, and two strains of A. brunescens. So far the L. naucina has fruited.

Another member has successfully fruited a culture of Pleurotus ostreatus repeatedly using nothing more complex than a culture from a specimen collected by himself. The culture is growing on milo grain.

The group has active growing pure spawn cultures of A. brunescens, A. rodmanii, A. augustus, L. naucina, Clitocybe nuda, Coprinus comatus, P. ostreatus, and a Calvatia species. They are trying to fruit them on grain.

The group is willing to share cultures, materials, and techniques, write to Joe Mandell, 250 Parkside Dr., Palo Alto, CA. 94306 (phone 493-3798).

#### SPECIAL OFFER FROM PACIFIC SEARCH Joy Spurr

Pacific Search again offers a special subscription rate of \$8.85 per year for the first subscription, and \$7.85 per year for each additional subscription as a holiday bonus. This magazine features the pleasures and problems of living in the Pacific Northwest, including an article on mushrooms in each issue (written by our own Joy Spurr). Pacific Search also publishes cookbooks and books on nature subjects by Northwest authors. For more information write to PACIFIC SEARCH 715 Harrison Street, Seattle, Wa., 98109.

With a warm and dry clubhouse, the annual fieldtrip to Lake Arrowhead on November 5 & 6 was a great success. Through the courtesy of Dave and Jennie Schmitt this is a very pleasant place to hold the last fieldtrip of the fall season. As Dave and Lyle kept a roaring fire going in the fireplace in the clubhouse, it allowed our members to warm up when they came in. Saturday was cold, but dry, and 88 people signed the register, many of them new members. Most of them found their way to the fieldtrip site with the aid of the maps that were handed out during the Annual Exhibit.

Dave and the Hendrickses lead some good-sized parties into the woods. Jennie identified 96 species which were brought in by our members. Of special interest were the two specimens that brought our favorite person to mind, Ramaria stuntzii and Psilocybe stuntzii. Most everyone who was interested collected plenty of Chanterelles for the pot.

The potluck was delicious as usual with 54 people participating. Thanks to Dorothy Viers, who helped Joy McKnight in the kitchen. Many came only for the day, but those who camped out, stayed by the fire and talked into the evening. Saturday night was cold and clear with the stars brightly shining, but Sunday morning it was raining heavily. That didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirit, however, and a few local people dropped in, out of curiosity. Many thanks to the Schmitts for sponsoring this very enjoyable fieldtrip.

#### OAKPATCH FIELDTRIP REPORT Emory & Mildred Bronner

The fieldtrip to the Boys' Camp at Oakpatch on Oct. 29 & 30 "mushroom - wise" was a huge success. In the morning the thick salal and other underbrush was wet, but that was nothing compared to the heavy downpour in the afternoon. The persistent hunters found Leccinum aurantiacum and Armillaria ponderosa. However, the yellow and white Chanterelles which we usually find at Oakpatch were scarce this year. Jennie Schmitt and Howard Melsen identified 78 species. A total of 52 persons signed the register. 36 persons stayed for our delicious potluck supper to which we invited the 6 boys and the caretaker, Mr. Baker. Every year it is a pleasure to bring some change into the lives of these mentally retarded men who live at Oakpatch the year round. Also by displaying the mushrooms in the recreation room, and holding the potluck in the dining room, it makes this fieldtrip, held late in the fall season, less chancy, since the returning hunters can warm up inside a building.

Mildred and Emory Bronner and Fay Melsen assisted Dick Sieger as hosts in this fieldtrip. A donation was taken from those attending and \$65.23 was given to the caretaker.

(At the time you read this fieldtrip report, Mildred and Emory are enjoying the sunshine and pleasures of a Caribbean cruise.)

#### WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Virginia Albright, 784-8230; Ron Bailey, 522-6652; Joseph & Nina Cwinar, 789-1207; Florence DiJulio & David Kent, 632-3950; Gladys Fleming, 542-1962; Bonnie Hayford, 866-7732; Eric & Virginia Hoyte, 522-3502; Larry Irwin, 454-9124; Kenneth Jacot, 293 - 6785; Thomas & Carolyn Kinsman, 746-9312; Ann S. Morgan, 324-9510; Sue Pittman 486-8956; Charles & Barbara Pomeroy, 362-2759; Margaret & Paul Ranes, 244-2861; Gerald & Barbara Riemer, 941-3668; Frank & Jessie Rowan, 255-7346; Russell & Edna Torneby, 242-1676; Joyce Walter, 285-2450.

The third CISPUS Foray was held Friday through Sunday, 21-23 October at the Cispus Environmental Center near Randle. The weather was much sunnier than for CISPUS II. About 190 people attended, mainly from Washington, Oregon and Idaho, but a dozen members of the Mycological Society of San Francisco (MSSF) also attended, and many other states and provinces of Canada were represented. It is rumored that the MSSF's were taking notes for the National NAMA Foray they will be hosting in northern California about next Thanksgiving.

Each CISPUS has had a different sponsor. CISPUS I was actually the 1972 Stuntz Foray for professionals. The 1975 CISPUS II was sponsored by PSMS, and this year's CISPUS III was sponsored jointly by PSMS and the Northwest Key Council. The planning committee consisted of Jennie Schmitt, Kit Scates, Mike Beug and Scott Chilton, all members of both sponsoring organizations.

Forayers collected and identified 200 species on Friday and Saturday. About 40 forayers attended the microscopy workshop conducted by Judy Roger of PSMS and Herb Saylor of MSSF. Mike Beug and Gary Menser conducted identification classes for beginners, Kit Scates held classes for intermediates, and Joy Spurr conducted a seminar on photography. The NAMA slide-tape programs "Range and Diversity of Fungi" by Coleman Leuthy and "The Gilled Fungi--Part I" by Dr. David Hosford and Kit Scates were also shown.

Saturday evening Dr. Daniel Stuntz repeated his talk on "The Evolution of the Friesian System" for the benefit of the many forayers who had not attended CISPUS II. Dr. Harry Thiers of San Francisco State College gave an entertaining and instructive talk on "What's in a Mushroom," in which he interwove slides of mushrooms with microphotographs relating the macroscopically observable texture of the mushroom parts to the microstructure. In a late evening session Evergreen State student Paul Stamets really zoomed in on ultra-microstructure with excellent scanning electron micrographs, in which a single basidium with its spores filled the screen. This was followed by Susan Barnes' presentation of slides of exotic mushrooms of Panama where she did field work a few years ago.

On Sunday Jeff Chilton explained the steps in commercial mushroom cultivation and showed some of Ostrom's innovative work in bringing shiitake and other new species to the supermarket. Dr. Gaston Guzman of the National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico City, spoke on the genus Psilocybe, which he is monographing. Dr. Guzman has just published the first popular guide to mushrooms of Mexico, Identificacion de los Hongos, for which he received several orders during the foray. Paul Stamets concluded the program with a review of the Strophariaceae from his book which is about to be published.

Many public-spirited forayers then pitched in to help with the cleanup of the display area, dining hall, and cabins.

#### MISCELLANY

H.R.H.

We will report the November Board News next month.

At the December Membership Meeting there will be a number of back-issues of Spore Prints available for our new members. We don't have a complete set, but enough to give them some information about dates and locations of fieldtrips and other news about mycology and PSMS.

Your Editors wish all of you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY MUSHROOMING 1978.