April 7 & 8 Squire Creek County Camp

- Take the Arlington Exit from I - 5, and take
- State Highway 530 toward Darrington. Drive
- about four miles past French Creek. Cross bridge
- and it will be on your left. There is a fee for
- camping.

April 21 & 22 Educational Foray to Thunderbird Park

Thunderbird Park is located five miles east of
Monroe on the south side of the Skykomish River on the Ben
Howard Road.

This is a private campground with a shelter,
showers with hot and cold running water, hook-
ups for water, sewer, and electricity, for the
usual fee. There also is a charge for people
staying just for the day.

Be sure you cross the river in Monroe!

There will be a potluck on Saturday. The educational pro-
gram of the foray had not been finalized at this time. It
usually consists of a lecture on Saturday evening.

Dick Sieger

FIELD TRIPS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jennie Schmitt

April is the month we realize that spring has finally arrived.
The trees have begun to bloom and bud, the grass and mush-
rooms begin to appear from beneath the winter snow. The
sun even shines a bit brighter.

This is also the month when we look over the affairs of our
organization for the past year. It is the peak of election of
officers. The time that gives an opportunity to many to ac-
cept the challenge of office and responsibility of their Club.

May I say "thank you" to the officers just retiring for a suc-
cessful year, and wish for the new officers, every success
as they go forward with the love and cooperation of all mem-
bers. We must all work together to gain our goals for the
fiscal year. It is only through us, you and me, as members,
that our club will continue to grow and prosper.

As we prepare our new officers for their tasks in the coming
year, let us resolve to give our full-hearted cooperation,
accepting what they ask of us, and doing for them that which
we would expect they would do for us.

It's not the hours you put into your work, but the work you
put into your hours. The hardest work in the world is to do
that which should have been done yesterday. It is quite pos-
sible to work, without results, but never will there be re-
results without work.

Thanks again to the retiring officers for a very prolific year,
and I hope those taking your position will be able to carry
on your good work.

Happy Hunting To One and All!

URGENT PLEA:

There is a great need for fieldtrip hosts for all of the above
fieldtrips. If PSMS is to continue the format of the field-
trips in the present manner, more members, old and new,
will have to volunteer for hosting duties on the coming field-
trips. A host does not need to identify the mushrooms brought
in (an expert will do this). A host keeps the coffee going,
greets arriving members, and stirs the fire in the fireplace
if we have a cold and rainy day. Ideally, we would have at
least 4 volunteers (individuals or couples), each serving for
one-half day. This way, everybody also gets to go out for
mushrooms. Unfortunately, during most of last year, only
one family per fieldtrip volunteered, and the fieldtrip chair-
man and his family had to pitch in every time. This cannot
be expected of any one all the time. The hosts would like
to hunt for fungi too.

This is our Society, and we have a good thing going. Let's
not spoil it by inaction. Pick up your phone and call Dick
Sieger, fieldtrip chairman, at 362-6860 and volunteer for
at least one of the coming spring and/or fall fieldtrips.
Do it now, don't delay. Dick told me that he could easily
assign as many as ten persons as hosts on fieldtrips, so don't
rationalize that others will be volunteering and I don't have to.
EVERYBODY SHOULD CONSIDER IT A RESPONSIBILITY
Calendar

April 8 Fieldtrip to Squire Creek County Campground
April 9 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

NOTE: The membership meetings for April, May, and June 1979 will be held in the Meeting Room of the Sacred Heart Church, located across the street from the Pacific Science Center on Second Avenue North. Park in your usual parking place. Additional parking will be available behind the church, entering from John Street.

April 21 & 22 Educational Foray to Thunderbird Park
April 23 Monday, Board Meeting, 8:00 pm
April 27 Deadline for Spore Print material. Send all articles, art work, photos, etc., to the Editor, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA., 98115

May 14 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

IN MEMORIAM - FRANK PADUANO
On February 22, 1978 our long-time member Frank Paduano died after a long illness. Our sympathies go to his wife Doris and Family.

Membership Meeting

Monday, April 9, 1979, 8:00 pm in the Meeting Room of the Sacred Heart Church, located across the street from the Pacific Science Center on Second Avenue North.

Program: George Rafanelli (a past president of PSMS) will give a slide-illustrated talk on the spring mushrooms. All of us can stand a review after the long, cold winter.

There will be books for sale at the April Membership Meeting.

MARCH BOARD NEWS

President Jennie Schmitt introduced the newly elected trustees. Secretary Margaret Holzbauer read the minutes of the February Board Meeting, for the benefit of the new trustees.

Since the Eames Theater in the Pacific Science Center is being remodeled, it will not be available for membership meetings until the Fall. PSMS has secured the Meeting Room of the Sacred Heart Church, located across the street from the Pacific Science Center (on Second Avenue North) for the April, May, and June membership meetings. The church also will allow some parking on its premises (enter from John)

Margo Harrison gave a preliminary report on the Banquet (which had been held two days prior to the Board Meeting) and will present a final report in April.

Lyle McKnight, elections chairman, gave his report and tally sheet to the President. The newly elected officers and trustees appear in the column to the left on this page.

President Schmitt is in the process of making committee assignments at this time. The new committee heads will be reported in the new roster (which Joy hopes will be printed by the April membership meeting) as well as in Spore Prints.

Bob Hanna, publications chairman, distributed copies of the reprinted By-Laws. They will be available at the April membership meeting.

Scott Chilton and Jack Orth presented to the Board the pros and cons of updating and reprinting PSMS' Poison Pamphlet. The Board recommended that the Pamphlet be revised, updated, and reprinted, since PSMS keeps getting requests for the publication.

The Board continues to study the possible sponsorship of the 1981 NAMA National Foray. A decision is necessary by the time of this year's Foray, which will be held in Ohio in September.

FEBRUARY BOARD NEWS

The Board appropriated funds to establish a complete set of teaching slides for the instructors who hold classes principally for PSMS members. With the present interest in mushrooms growing, several classes are held simultaneously, and many instructors are borrowing slides from the PSMS collections that the present collection of slides is insufficient. The slide collections remain the property of PSMS.

Margaret Dilly (782-8511); Bob Hanna (767-6381); Margo Harrison (723-5127); Grace Jones (772-5024); Paul Jones (772-6024); Dennis Krabbenhoft (859-2454); LomNee March (885-0375) Tom McKnight (486-2118); Agnes Sieger (362-6680)

ALTENATES Stan March (885-0375); John Lockwood (522-4640); Rudy Karzmar (632-7321).

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz
meeting, answer their questions, etc. No action was taken, but the idea was taken under consideration.

Ann Levonavitch, a PSMS charter member, donated her complete set of Spore Prints to the Society, and the Board decided to have it bound and placed in the PSMS Library.

President Jennie Schmitt ordered the by-monthly journal "Mycologia" for the Society. It too will be placed in the Library.

President Schmitt also asked the Board's opinion on sponsoring the 1981 NAMA National Foray. The sponsor's obligations are: to provide a location, lodging, food, and some transportation for a few travelers who arrive by air, train, bus, etc. Cispus would be the location, and the date would be in September and/or October. This topic will be brought up again at later Board Meetings.

BANQUET OBSERVATIONS

H.R.H.

Since the deadline for this issue of Spore Prints came almost immediately after the banquet, a full report will be presented later. But I wanted to add my observations, which our modest banquet chairman might not include.

The banquet speaker, David Hosford, gave tribute to his mentor (Dr. Stuntz) and also talked about his trip to the Amazon River.

The excellent, observant, and witty Master of Ceremonies, Carl Hermanson, entertained all of us splendidly. He congratulated Dr. Stuntz on his 70th birthday (which was March 15th) and presented him his favorite cake. The Society also honored Dr. Stuntz and is sponsoring his trip this summer to Nova Scotia, where he will collect and study fungi with a former student. The trip in a small way is a "thank you" for the many, many ways in which Dr. Stuntz assists our Society.

The banquet audience sang "Happy Birthday" to Laurel Huford who celebrated her special day on the 17th of March.

PSMS conferred a life-time membership on your editors at the banquet. Monte and I very much appreciate the honor, and plan to stay on as editors, as well as continue to stay involved in other activities of our Society.

But the Banquet Committee outdid itself in the other awards that were made, and in the door prizes chosen. Mildred Bronner, an avid collector of large quantities and big specimens, was awarded a "miniature" bucket (about 2" square) so she could continue this year. LonNee March was heard complaining last fall, that she had never found a Matzutake. The Committee informed her that the reason for this was simply that she did not own the proper equipment, and promptly awarded her a Matzutake stick and a rice sock (and assured her that now all barriers were removed, and she should have success this fall). Earl Harrison was awarded a decorated hat, because the committee had observed that even after taking Milt Grout's classes, he still was not always blessed with mushrooms. And the Committee also remembered that George Rafeanelli annually repeats that wearing a red hat was an absolute necessity for a successful mushroom hunter.

Another prize went to George himself. Since his retirement he has been seen hunting mushrooms on his motorcycle. One trip carried him as far north as the Lummi Indian Reservations. The funny story just reported a disagreement, and as a keepsake George received a "fake" arrow, reminding him how lucky he was and did not get the real thing.

Now to the door prizes: Marilyn Jenkins won the other half of the "Judy Cake." Elsa Kapta (who said she attended the banquet in memory of her deceased husband) received a one-year PSMS membership. Mary Adam's prize was a mushroom hunting basket. And Del Miller won a copy of the second edition of Orson Miller's Mushrooms of North America. It was a swell banquet!

REPORT FROM THE TOLT RIVER COUNTY PARK FIELDTRIP

The weather was absolutely gorgeous on Saturday, March 24 for the one-day outing to the Tolt River County Park. A total of 92 members and guests signed the fieldtrip register. By 10 o'clock we had run out of cookies, and Grace and Paul Jones made a trip to nearby Carnation for a replenishment.

Since most of the participants were newcomers, Monte gave a short lecture on how to identify cottonwood trees and displayed a few Verpas before everybody went out collecting. The total find was not very great. Only about two dozen plus very small Verpas were found. I guess the beautiful weather of the previous week was not enough to coax more of them into fruiting. A report from a native indicated that the temperature at night had dipped into the twenties. A total of 6 different varieties of mushrooms were brought in, the largest being several specimens of Polyporus squamosus.

Some participants took home some crisp, fresh nettles instead of mushrooms. But because the weather was so nice, and we hunted in shirt sleeves, must people said they enjoyed getting out after the long winter, and will anticipate more fungi on future fieldtrips.

WILD MUSHROOM WATCH

Dick Sieger

The Wild Mushroom Watch is an attempt by the North American Mycological Society to inventory the occurrence of common mushrooms on the continent.

In our area, western Washington and Oregon, much information will come from field trips and shows, but to get a complete picture many reports are needed from individuals.

The emphasis is on abundant species as determined by the number of times they are encountered. A day's list would usually have less than ten species, sometimes only one, but might include dozens at the height of the fall season. If a familiar area doesn't produce a species that is usually plentiful, that information is needed. Report the unusually early or late appearance of a mushroom. Also of interest would be the appearance of rare but important species such as Amanita verna.

Because accuracy of identification is important, it will be helpful to know which publication you used to identify your material. When you find an abundant species that can't be identified, save samples with a description and an attempt will be made to name the little brown toadstool.

The report forms ask for date, locality, conditions (burned over, unusually dry, etc.), genus & species, number of encounters, the publication used for identification, and any discrepancies from the published description.

Forms are available from R. E. Sieger, 15555 14th Ave. NE, Seattle, 98155, 362-6860. Call or write for information and especially with information and reports.
WORKSHOPS

The Department of Biology, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 (phone 1-509-963-2731) will be holding two workshops at Cispus this spring. Dr. Davis Hosford will be giving one on Beginning Mushroom Identification (May 11, 12 & 13) and Dr. William W. Barker on Wildflowers (May 18, 19 & 20). Contact the above department for details.

The Environmental Affairs Commission of the Associated Students of the UW is sponsoring a wilderness conference on the campus on May 5 & 6. For details call 543-8700 or 543-8634.

FUNGI & FIBERS

Dick Sieger

Textiles dyed with mushrooms will be shown in California in the spring of 1980. The exhibit is co-sponsored by The Mendocino County Museum and The Mendocino Art Center Textile Apprenticeship Program. For information, write: Fungi & Fibers, 400 East Commercial St., Willits, California 95490, or call (707) 459-2736.

Info is from a handbill passed out at the NAMA Foray

WARNING: I BRAKE FOR FUNGI

the above quote is a bumper sticker that was distributed during the NAMA Foray in California.

Other bumper stickers reported, state Mycology is Mush-rooming.

BOOKS

Fungi, Delight of Curiosity by Harold J. Brodie, University of Toronto Press, 1978. $10. This book is written by a B.C. professor and contains unusual and little-known facts about fungi. It is well illustrated.

DID YOU KNOW that some day we may lunch on mushroom mycelium rather than mushrooms? Elizabeth Robertson, a member of the Mycological Society of Toronto, who is collecting information on the nutritional value of mushrooms, points out an article by Alfred Hayes in New Scientist (27:450-452, 1969) and reprinted in Mcllvainea (1(2):19-22, 1973). Hayes of the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute in Sussex, England says in part: "Contrary to popular belief, mushrooms possess a distinct food value, being good sources of several vitamins (thiamin, niacin, and riboflavin) and protein. The protein is of good quality, contains many of the essential amino acids, and is readily digested.

... Although mushroom mycelium does not match the fruit-body for aroma or flavor, its nutritional value is comparable, the dry mycelium containing up to 40 per cent protein. The proven edibility of the cultivated mushroom suggests that mass cultivation of mycelium should be given more attention."

PUFFBALL RECIPE

H.R.H.

Last spring, after finding quite a few, fresh, firm puffballs, I fixed them our favorite way, by slicing them 1/4 inch thick then dipping them first in flour, then egg, then a mixture of bread-crumbs and parmesan, and frying them in melted margarine until brown on both sides. The surplus I froze, separating each slice with wax paper. Reheated on a cookie-sheet in the oven, they made delicious, instantly ready hors d'oeuvres!

UNDERGROUND MUSHROOM FARM

The Nutmeg Mycological Society reports that if you were to fly over Worthington, Pa., looking for the nation's largest mushroom farm, you wouldn't find it from the air because it is situated underground within the Allegheny Mountains. Located beneath 500 acres of rolling country-side in an abandoned limestone mine are over 100 miles of corridors which produce 60 tons of mushrooms a day!

Ira and M.S. Yoder, brothers, had the bright idea of growing mushrooms in limestone mines over 41 years ago. It took them about 15 years to solve the problems of air circulation, temperature (50 to 62 degrees) and humidity of about 70% before they could go into production.

Compost containing horse manure is obtained from Kentucky bluegrass farms. Who knows... maybe the mushrooms you purchased were nurtured by the waste from Seattle Slew or other noted race horses.

Working conditions have improved over the years in the farm. Now the 750 pickers have underground cafeterias and piped music to ease their toil. The pickers come under the same state and federal regulations as hardrock miners and the farm itself comes under periodic visits from mine inspectors.

Several strikes by the pickers union have occurred at the farm. One would think that their union would be industrially oriented, but they're not. The pickers belong to the steelworkers' union!

FUNGI MAY BE POTENTIALLY IMMORTAL

Under "Fungi" in the Encyclopedia Britannica there appears this interesting observation:

"The individual fungus is potentially immortal, for it continues to grow at the hyphal tips as long as conditions remain favorable. It is theoretically possible that in undis turbed places mycelia still exist that have grown continuously for many thousands of years." (Reported by Colorado Mycologist, Soc.)

MYCOLOGICAL NEWS

The Snohomish County Mycological Society announces the publication of its 85 page KEYS TO MUSHROOM GENERA written by member Gene Butler. He developed the keys because the Snohomish Society is a small organization without close contact with a university and without microscopes. The members had to be trained in the recognition of mushrooms through their visible features. The booklet lists approximately 340 genera - unusually complete for a work of this type. The key is being produced in cooperation with the Pacific Northwest Key Council. Helen Wasson, our book sales chairman, has this booklet for sale. Single copies are available at $5.00 plus 5.1% sales tax on Washington retail sales, and 60¢ for order costs and postage from the Snohomish Mycological Society, 12225 - 13th Dr. S.E., Everett, WA, 98204. There is a discount for bulk orders.

The Colorado Mycological Society is undertaking a two-year project called CITY MUSHROOM PROJECT aimed at cataloging the mushrooms of the urban areas, and publishing the findings in a book. It will contain professionally approved descriptions along with photographs. To this date the following species have been adequately described and photographed: Coprinus atramentarius, C. micaceus, C. comatus, Psathrella condolea, Agaricus campestris, Chlorophyllum molybdites, Phallus impudicus, Conocybe Tecta, Agrocybe pcticides, bird's nests, Marasmius oready.