

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2161 East Hamlin, Seattle, Wa. 98112

April 1981

Number 171

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FIELD TRIPS

Dick Sieger

Help Wanted! No Experience Needed. Field Trip Host and Hostess. Call Dick Sieger at 362 - 6860.

Check for last minute changes before you come to a field trip. See the details in last month's Spore Prints.

If there is no host when you arrive at the designated field trip site, plan to gather for pot luck dinner at 5:30 pm.

Call Dick Sieger for car pooling. There have been requests for rides, but no calls from people who can take passengers. Share your gas bill with others.

April 11 & 12 Squire Creek County Camp
From I - 5, take the Arlington (#208) exit. Travel east on State Highway #530 toward Darrington. Four miles past French Creek (and four miles before Darrington) cross the bridge. Squire Creek Camp is to the left. There is a county fee for camping.

April 26 Sunday only - University of Washington Arboretum - no pot luck.
Go to the Museum of History and Industry. Take the foot path that starts at the east side of the parking area. Continue, crossing two floating bridges, and meet at the grassy area, Foster Island. You can also rent a canoe behind Husky Stadium, cross the ship canal, and follow the shore east to Foster Island, the rocky point. This is a fun trip starting in the middle of the morning until the middle of the afternoon.

May 2 & 3 Crystal Springs Forest Camp
Travel east on I - 90 over Snoqualmie Pass. Nine miles past the summit, take the Stampede Pass (#62) exit. Turn right at the stop sign, then right again just before the bridge.

THE MARGARET McKENNY FORAY

Dick Sieger

PSMS is sponsoring the North American Mycological Association's 1981 foray. NAMA is primarily an amateur organization very much like PSMS but on an international scale. Some three hundred PSMS and NAMA members will gather on the Olympic Peninsula to collect and study mushrooms and to meet with fellow mycophiles from all over the continent. An application form for the Foray is enclosed.

The foray will be at Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend. It will be at the height of the mushroom season, October 15, 16, 17, and 18. Dr. Stuntz is our Foray Mycologist. He will be assisted by northwest professionals, students, the Northwest Key Council, and members of PSMS. The Jefferson County Mycological Society will administer a secrecy oath and guide us to mysterious hidden fungus patches. The park overlooks the Strait of Juan de Fuca. It is a former

Army post that is maintained by our State as a conference center. Fine old military buildings have been remodeled to provide many private rooms and modern baths. Good meals are served in a large dining hall, and dinner wines are available. The main display room is spacious and will have areas for book sales and photography as well as sorting tables and space for Dr. Stuntz and his assistants. Facilities include beach front campsites as well as a boat launch, dock, overnight moorage, a balloon hanger, and a parade ground for close order drill. More than half the county is public land with many fine nearby collecting sites. Interesting programs are being organized for rank beginners, intermediate collectors, and advanced amateurs. Our Marel Committee will present the controversial results of several years of research.

We expect some people to come to Seattle a week early to attend our Annual Exhibit and to join us in collecting for it. Some will stay after the foray to collect in the Cascades. The foray committee needs help in welcoming our guests. If you would like to help, please call Ben Woo or Dick Sieger.

BANQUET BOUQUETS

Margaret Dilly

Just a few flowery thank yous about the Annual Banquet, which was well attended and a real success. The South Seattle Community College Food Sciences again put on a marvelous performance and used, to every gourmet's delight, the mushrooms so generously donated by Society members.

Special bouquets really belong to the super group of members who served on the banquet committee. A special rose to Ethel Bennett and Fay Melsen who worked so diligently and efficiently with tickets and place cards prior to and during the banquet.

Also to be singled out are those who so generously donated door prizes. The beautiful, large, framed photograph of Phaeolepiota aurea done by Joy Spurr is a good example of her professionalism. Another example of artistry is the set of book-ends adorned with hand sculptured Cantharellus cibarius, crafted by Irene O'Connor. She will have some of her crafts for sale at our annual exhibit this fall. Not to be overlooked is George Rafanelli with his wine or Claude Dilly with his honey.

Last but not least THANK YOU to all you wonderful people who attended, it made my responsibility as chairman a real pleasure.

HELP IN LOCATING OLD POSTERS

About the same time that our Society published our cookbook (1969), there also was produced a poster type wall hanging, using the same old-time wood cuts that were taken from early 18th and 19th century books furnished by Dr. Stuntz. These were done in sepia tones. They were sold at the annual exhibit. Anyone who remembers these posters or who may have one of them, please contact Ed Cantelon, at 242 - 6115. We would like to find the original negatives. We do know they were processed by Olympic Blue Print Co.



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Spore
Prints

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PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

% The Museum of History and Industry, 2161 East Hamlin
Seattle, Wa., 98112. Mail all material for Spore Prints
to Hildegard Hendrickson, 2559 NE 96, Seattle, 98115.

OFFICERS Carl Hermanson, President, 1982 (1)
John Kunz, Vice-President, 1983 (1)
Earl Harrison, Treasurer, 1982 (2)
Margaret Holzbauer, Secretary, 1983 (2)

TRUSTEES - Term expires March 1982: Margo Harri-
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March (2); Stan March (1); Don Schultz (1)
- Term expires March 1983: Hildegard
Hendrickson (1); Monte Hendrickson (1);
Grace Jones (2); Dennis Krabbenhoft (2)
Agnes Sieger (2).

ALTERNATES: Marian Maxwell; Charlotte Turner -
Zila; Dave Jansen.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Jennie Schmitt

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER: Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

Calendar

April 11 & 12 Field Trip to Squire Creek Camp

April 13 Monday, Beginners' Class, 6:45 pm

Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

April 20 Monday, Board Meeting, 8:00 pm

April 24 Deadline for Spore Print Material. Send all arti-
cles, photos, etc. to the Editor, 2559
NE 96th, Seattle, Wa., 98115

April 26 Sunday, Mushroom Walk through the Arboretum

May 2 & 3 Field Trip to Crystal Springs Forest Camp

May 11 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN APRIL

Our new membership chairman, Aino Kunz reports that the 1981 membership rosters will be available for pickup at the April, May and June membership meetings. Any rosters not picked up by that time will be mailed out. It saves a considerable amount of postage and work if the members come to monthly meetings and pick up their rosters! All membership information (changes of address, phone numbers, not receiving the Spore Prints, decals, etc.) should be directed to Aino, 12552 - 19th Ave. NE, Seattle, Wa., 98125, phone 362-7402. Having husband John and son David handling the computer aspect of membership should make the coordination really easy.

Survivors Banquet

Monday, April 13, 1981, 8:00 pm in the McCurdy Room
of the Museum of History and Industry.

Program: Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz, Professor Emeritus of the
University of Washington, and our Scientific Adviser, will
give a talk on the Genus Amanita. All of us are always
looking forward to a lecture by Dr. Stuntz, since he can pre-
sent even the most complicated and difficult aspect of myco-
logy so that the novice and advanced students benefit.

MARCH BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

For this Board Meeting, the new Board assembled at President Hermanson's home, since the Museum was not available. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted, and the next order of business was the assignment of committee chairmanships. The standing committees and chairpersons are listed in the front of the 1981 Membership Roster, which will be available for pick up at the April membership meeting.

During the past two months, two meetings were held to get organized for the 1981 Annual Exhibit. Co-chairmen for this big event are Bob Hanna and Don Schultz. The Board decided that the hours for this year's show will be the same as last year, Saturday: noon - 8 p.m. and Sunday: 10 - 6. Admission will be \$3 for adults, and \$2 for Senior Citizens and students 12 - 18 years. A recommendation was made that only those PSMS members who help on the Show (in any capacity) should be admitted free to the Show. Those members who do not help should be charged a reduced admission fee. The Board thanked Winston Hufford (past general chairman) and Bob Hamilton for the book they have compiled which details all the various tasks that have to be done to put on the show, together with a flow-chart which indicates the time and date when each task should be done. This document will lighten the workload of every future show chairman.

Margaret Dilly, banquet chairman, reported that 232 members and guests attended this year's Survivors Banquet, which just about broke even this year financially. She said it was a pleasure to work with the staff of the South Seattle Community College, who tried in every way, to please us.

Ed Cantelon reported on the outcome of the 1981 election and turned over the ballots to President Hermanson for disposition. Ed and Ella volunteered to organize the ever popular December membership meeting again this year. (How could they get out of it, now that they have a mangle to iron the white tablecloths?)

The results of the 1981 elections are reported in the upper-left corner of page 2 of this issue of Spore Prints.

FEBRUARY BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

Due to the earlier deadline for the March issue, you are getting this information a month late.

Margaret Dilly, banquet chairman, reported that all preparations were progressing satisfactorily. At this time she was still asking for more chanterelle donations. Two hundred tickets had been sold.

Bob Hanna and Don Schultz have accepted the chairmanship for the 1981 Exhibit. They have scheduled an organizational meeting for February and March, and are reviewing the various tasks that have to be done at this time. Their work is eased because Winston Hufford and Bob Hamilton have com-

piled a duty-book, detailing all the tasks that must be done as well as a flow chart indicating the time, when such tasks must be done. Thank you.

Publications chairman, Monte Hendrickson, is soliciting ideas for a new letterhead for the Society's stationary, since we are running out of the old ones, and also because we now have a new address.

Treasurer Earl Harrison has finished the financial report and it will be presented in a later issue.

REPORT FROM THE BEGINNERS' FIELDTRIP TO THE TOLT

We can say the weather was kind to the some 95 people who came to learn about cottonwoods, *Verpa bohemica*, trillium and nettles. On the way over, Monte and I were fortunate to find 4 mature morels and same number of prime verpas to use as exhibits, because the day's find around the camp site did not exceed much over two dozen verpas. However, the eager new members did spot 30 different varieties of fungi which were identified by Charlie Volz and Dick Sieger. The specimens included prime *Pleurotus ostreatus*, *Pluteus cervinus*, *Peziza* sp., and many Polypores.

The youngest participant was nine weeks old, and I did not ask for a show of hands as to who was the oldest. Margo Harrison treated us to delicious pickled salmon and smelt.

Instructor and leader for the field trip was Monte Hendrickson, while Hildegard kept the participants warm with coffee and advice.

BEGINNERS' CLASS CONTINUES IN APRIL

The topic of the beginners' class for April is the identification of spring mushrooms. Milton Grout, the instructor of the Society's popular fall classes is taking over, and will present slides about the mushrooms which are found in the spring season. Remember that the class starts at 6:45 pm on the meeting night (April 13th) and goes to 7:30. Then the people can take a stretch, examine the specimens brought in by members until the membership meeting starts at 8:00 pm.

THANK YOU Howard & Fay Melsen

A big Thank You to all our friends in the Society for their prayers and good wishes for my recovery from recent heart surgery. The many cards, phone calls, and visits while in the hospital and during my convalescence were much appreciated. It is a privilege to belong to an organization like PSMS where over the past years we have met such nice people, and made so many good friends.

SICK CALL CLARION

Jennie Schmitt is recuperating from recent surgery, while at press time, Dorothy Nendza was still in the cardiac unit of Swedish Hospital.

PHOTO TIP FOR APRIL Joy Spurr

Don't Let Your Film Get Fogged at the Airports.... Film is supposed to go through airport security x-ray equipment safely if it is packed in a Film Shield, a lead-lined pouch; but I don't trust it completely. I remove film from my camera (tag the roll with the picture number so you know how many times to advance the film when you reload the camera), put all rolls of film in plastic tubes and ask the security clerk to HAND-CHECK the film. The plastic tube, under trade name,

Space Saver Filmpak, holds 4 rolls of 35 mm, 120 or 220 film. It takes up to about one-third the space of regularly packaged film, gives instant visible inventory, keeps film clean, dry, and dust-free. It is also great for storing small accessories. Both items are available at a camera shop.

CONFERENCES

The Telluride Mushroom Conference, August 27 - 30, 1981 will feature the noted mycologist Dr. Rolf Singer. It is designed for persons interested in expanding their knowledge of edible, poisonous, and psychoactive wild mushrooms. For additional information write to Fungophile, P.O. Box 15183, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215. Some brochures will be available at the April membership meeting.

Dr. Fred Van DeBogart (a PSMS member) will hold a seminar on the Field Identification of Mushrooms in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, August 24 - 28, 1981. For further information contact the Grand Teton Environmental Education Center, Box 68 Kelly, WY 83011.

COURSES ON WILD EDIBLE PLANTS AND MUSHROOMS

will be taught by Dave Jansen, PSMS member, as follows:

at Discovery Park (phone 625-4636) 3801 W. Government Way, Seattle; Thursdays, April 16, 23, 30th; from 7:30 - 9:30 pm, with a field trip on Saturday, April 25.

at Kelsey Creek Park (phone 455-6885) 130th Place S.E. at 4th Place, Bellevue; Tuesdays, April 21, 28, May 5 & 12th from 7:30 - 9:30 pm; with a field trip on Saturday, May 2nd.

at Camp Long (phone 935-0370) 5200 - 35th Ave. SW, Seattle; Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21st, from 7:30 - 9:30 pm, with an overnight camp out on May 16 - 17th;

For more information call the park or Dave (322-3307) eves.

MUSHROOM NAMES

Bill Burley

When you begin studying the fungi, whether for amateur enjoyment or for culinary purposes, you are faced with the task of trying to identify many different species, hopefully with a reasonable degree of certainty! Immediately you encounter three problems: first, the characteristics by which mycologists classify the different types are not always obvious, nor are they always easily observed without the use of chemical techniques and laboratory equipment such as a compound microscope; second, the available literature is necessarily incomplete, partly because mycologists are still trying to figure out the relationships between the different fungi, and partly because no single amateur or popular guidebook, regardless of how well-written it may be, can be very complete in comparison with the number of species you will encounter in the field; and third, due to the previous reasons, the naming (nomenclature) of the fungi may vary considerably depending on the author's opinion concerning the relationships of the species in question. Three books may each include a photograph and description of the same fungus, each calling it by a different name! So you may expect some confusion.

It's fortunate (although you may not think so at first) that most of the mushrooms and other fungi do not have common names. A few species do have well-known common names which aren't confusing, such as king boletus, chicken-of-the-woods, meadow mushroom, and shaggy mane, though if these names were used in England, France, or Greece, another person

probably wouldn't know to which mushroom you were referring. Most of the common names used refer to groups of fungi, such as the amanitas, the morels, coral fungi, tooth fungi, etc. With these names, however, you eventually run into the difficulty of describing one unique species, and then it is usually necessary (and always preferable) to use the correct botanical or scientific name. I'll say more on names and nomenclature below, but first a few comments on classification.

Biologists long ago recognized the need to give names to plants and animals, if only so that they could keep things straight in their own minds. These early names were usually general descriptions of obvious physical characteristics of the organisms, and as our knowledge expanded it became evident that some very distantly related plants or animals were being "classified" rather too closely together. We generally try to set up classifications and give names to express evolutionary descent and thus to reflect the relationships of organisms, and so with all the major groups there is a time period during which classification is in a constant state of change. This is generally the case with the fungi; mycologists are still actively debating the various relationships and changing the classifications (and hence some of the names.) Ornithologists are luckier: most of the major groups of birds are fairly well known, and there is general agreement as to their relationships, making it much easier for the amateur birdwatcher to learn the names and relationships. (It doesn't however make it easier to actually recognize all the different birds in the field; this still takes lots of time and study.)

The "hierarchy" of biological classification is simply a method by which we can express the presumed relationships of organisms. Remember that the finer points of the classification may continue to change as we learn more and more about the different fungi. On the next page I've shown how different organisms are classified. Although these are the basic parts of the hierarchy, biologists usually insert several additional modifying categories, such as subclasses, superorders, subfamilies, etc. It may seem at first that these just add to the confusion, but in reality use of these additional categories is an attempt to make even more clear the intricate relationships between the fungi.

Now, some comments on nomenclature, especially the names and naming of mushrooms. The scientific, or biological, or botanical name is always a two-part affair, and it's called a binomial. It always consists of the genus (generic) name and the species name (properly called the specific epithet) placed together. The fly amanita is then written Amanita muscaria. A couple of little rules should be mentioned here. First, the name is written in lower-case letters, except for the first letter of the generic name which is always capitalized. Second, the first letter of the specific epithet also should be lower case, though some old-school botanists persist in capitalizing it if it is the name of a person, such as Polyporus Schweinitzii, named after the mycologist Schweinitz. Third, the name should be underlined when writing or typing it, or set off in italics when being printed, as in a book.

You will often see a person's name, or abbreviated name, written after the scientific name. This is merely a citation of authority; it can get very complicated in its procedures, but the following hypothetical case will illustrate the basics. Lepiota hirsutus Smith, means that someone named Smith first described this species. Amanita hirsutus (Smith) Jones, means that Jones came along and decided that the species really belongs in the genus Amanita, and so his name is added.

Smith's name is retained in parentheses to show that the species hirsutus was originally described and named by him, but that it is now placed in a different genus by Jones. It is assumed here that on the basis of new or other evidence, Jones decided that this species is actually more closely related to the amanitas than it is to the lepiotas; this may not have been clear when Smith first described the species, or he may have been incompetent, though we never say this! Beyond this, the citations can get very detailed and it can be quite a problem working out the synonymy of some of the species. Note that in this case the specific epithet hirsutus did not change, and this is usually the situation luckily. Another good example of this is Polyporus applanatus and Ganoderma applanatum: the same fungus, our common artist's conk, but placed in different genera. One author may feel that it is closely related to other members of the genus Polyporus, while a second author may decide that this species is sufficiently distinct (that is, distantly related) to be placed in another genus, Ganoderma.

In the last example, the specific epithet remains the same, though its spelling is slightly different. Botanical names are in Latin, and there are very precise rules which determine how they will be spelled; generic names are usually nouns, and the specific epithets are usually adjectives modifying the noun, and the two must agree in gender, etc. These rules are established, updated, and revised by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

A few final comments. One genus, two genera; and one species, two species. Note that there is no such word as specie. When you see a long, 75-cent word ending in -aceae, it is the name of a family of mushrooms, such as the Lepiotaceae, Agaricaceae, Amanitaceae, etc. Family names always have this ending. (For animals, the family ending is -idae.) The names of orders end in -ales, such as the Agaricales, Pezizales, Cantharellales. Try to keep this in mind when thumbing through mushroom books, it will prevent some confusion. The term "agaric" is often loosely used, usually in reference to all the gilled mushrooms, and includes many families.

Don't be too discouraged at first with all the names — it takes time, but the more of the story is that you can have a hellvella good time studying and eating mushrooms.

HIERARCHY OF BIOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

KINGDOM	PLANTAE	PLANTAE	ANIMALIA	ANIMALIA
Phylum	Fungi	Fungi	Chordata	Chordata
Class	Basidiomycetes	Ascomycetes	Mammalia	Mammalia
Order	Agaricales	Pezizales	Primates	Carnivora
Family	Amanitaceae	Pezizaceae	Hominidae	Canidae
Genus	<u>Amanita</u>	<u>Aleuria</u>	<u>Homo</u>	<u>Canis</u>
Species	<u>muscaria</u>	<u>aurantia</u>	<u>sapiens</u>	<u>domesticus</u>
	fly agaric or fly amanita	"orangepeel" orange-cup fungus	you	your best friend

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

Our booksales chairman, Kathy Ringo, is ordering books for sale at the Annual Exhibit, as well as for our members. She will carry most of the popular titles for amateur mycologists. Should anyone have a special request, please let her know!

MARGARET McKENNY FORAY REGISTRATION

October 15-18, 1981

Fort Worden

Port Townsend, Washington

Limit: 300 persons

Deadline: September 15, 1981

Meals and lodging are from Thursday supper, October 15, through breakfast on Sunday, October 18. Transportation to the foray site is not included.

- (a) Victorian housing: single and double bedrooms in former officers' houses,* including bedding and meals..... \$100.00
- (b) Dormitories: large common rooms plus many single and double private rooms,* including bedding and meals..... 90.00
- (c) Waterfront camp sites for tents or recreational vehicles, with hookups, including meals..... 80.00
- (d) Activities only, with no meals or lodging..... 22.00

*Space in the Victorian housing is very limited and space in the private rooms in the dormitories is somewhat limited. Priority will be given to the earliest mailed registrations. When space is no longer available in the Victorian housing, space will be assigned in the dormitories. Dormitory space will be assigned as follows: Single registrants will be assigned single rooms and double applicants will be assigned double rooms. When private rooms are no longer available, the remaining applicants will be assigned to the large common rooms.

If you have special needs, please write the registrar.

Make all checks payable to Puget Sound Mycological Society (PSMS)
Registrar: Jennie Schmitt, 13737 Peninsula Place S.W., Port Orchard, WA 98366

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Area Code and Phone _____ No. in Party _____

Type Accommodations (check one):

- (a) Victorian housing _____
- (b) Dormitories _____
- (c) Camp Site _____
- (d) Activities only _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____
 minimum: \$30/person, or
 \$22/person for Option (d)
 (NONREFUNDABLE)

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE MEMBERS OF NAMA OR PSMS OR THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES. THE HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS DO NOT ASSUME LIABILITY FOR PERSONS BECOMING LOST OR INJURED, OR FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.