

PREVIEW OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

November 1981

THE 1981 ANNUAL EXHIBIT IS HISTORY Don Schultz & Bob Hanna

Again our membership produced an excellent exhibit. Thanks to all who helped, and especially all the chairmen of the numerous committees necessary to put the Show together.

Now that we are getting more familiar with the Flag Pavilion we realize what a fine facility this is. Only the drive-in access was not available this year due to construction.

Attendance was about the same as last year. The financial results are not yet complete. We certainly had wonderful publicity this year, that one has to wonder whether it is the high price of gasoline that makes the public less interested in collecting wild mushrooms and therefore, not visiting our exhibit.

Lois Ohlson who headed a new committee: Fungi in Foodstuffs reports: "Herman" got their attention. They smiled to themselves and stopped to look at the display. We displayed tempe the Indonesian soybean protein food. Other starters (which people wanted samples of) were sourdough made in 1961; Kefir, 2,000 - 4,000 years old, Russian and Mid East; Pimma - Ropa from Finland which is yogurt like; Grebe from Greece; Salt-Lemon from Morocco; cider vinegar and good old "Herman" the dominating and slaving dictator from the USA. The comparison "Herman" to Khadafi and Kefir to Methusselah is evident when working with starters. 50 people asked for starters, and Lois is busy mailing them out.

No report was received from our artists at press time,

After a short rest during the winter months, we will start thinking Exhibit 1982!

MUSHROOM STATISTICS OF THE 1981 EXHIBIT

Helena Kirkwood

319 species were exhibited at the Show. This compares to 322 species last year and 257 (a dry year) in 1979. A nice addition was a display of lichens which is not included in the official count.

The official count for 1981 is

Agaricaceae (gilled fungi)	204 species
Boletaceae (tube fungi)	24 "
Cantharellaceae	23 "
Hydnaceae (tooth fungi)	8 "
Lycoperdaceae (puffballs)	11 "
Polyporaceae	24 "
Ascomycetes	11 "
Misc. Basidiomycetes	3 "
Gasteromycetes	5 "
Tremellaceae	6 "

The Genera with the most species represented were:

Agaricus	11 species		Lactarius	10 species	
Amanita	9		Russula	14	н
Clitocybe	9		Ramaria	11	
Cortinarius	19		Boletus	10	н
Hygrophorus	9	11	Suillus	8	
Inocybe	17				

Our December membership meeting has become by tradition a social evening. We call it Photography Night and our Holiday Party. We solicit those of you who take 35-mm slides to show those which you like best. This is no contest; just a sharing of your pictures; if YOU like your pictures, we will like them too. We have found that 12 to 15 slides from a member should fill about an hour's time. Subject matter is not limited to mushrooms, anything is acceptable.

By December most of the mushrooms will have gone into hibernation until a new season. There will be few mushrooms displayed on the identification table. Instead, we hope, the ladies of the Society will bring cookies to place on those tables. The Society will furnish white table covers and coffee and tea.

if you have slides that you would like to show or if you have questions about what kind of cookies to bring, call Ed and Ella Cantelon - 242 - 6115.

CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS Monte H

Monte Hendrickson

Ed Cantelon

Again this year we will have classes for the many beginners who joined our Society during the Annual Exhibit. For your convenience the classes have been scheduled at 6:45 pm on the Monday of the Society's regular monthly meeting. The first class will be held Monday, November 9, 1981. The class will last to 7:30 so that our new members can examine the specimen table and have a short stretch until the regular membership meeting starts at 8:00 pm.

The classes will continue for the rest of the year and prepare members for the spring season. The topics of the classes are (1) Orientation for absolute beginners into all aspects of our Society; (2) Cooking and preservation of mushrooms; (3) Basic fundamentals of mushroom identification; (4) Working with mushroom identification keys; The series includes a learning field trip for spring mushrooms.

All interested members are welcome. There will be no fee for these Orientation Classes.

THINK MUSHROOMS FORCHRISTMAS

Below are several ideas for gifts for the coming holidays:

Be sure to take a look at the four beautiful mushrooms pictures PSMS reproduced from wood-cuts from a 1729 book NOVA PLANTARUM GENERA by Pierantonio Micheli.

A good idea for Christmas presents is to give (even to yourself) a good book on mushrooms. Kathy Ringo our booksales chairman, will have a good assortment available at the membership meetings. If you want to be sure to get a certain book, you may place your order ahead of time by calling her 784-9630.

A few T-Shirts with the NAMA Logo as well as the NAMA official program will be available at the November membership meeting. The shirts go for \$5.00 and the programs 10¢.



SCIENTIFIC ADVISER: Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

Calendar

- Nov. 7 & 8 Fieldtrip to Lake Arrowhead
- Nov. 9 Monday, 6:45 Beginners' Class Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
- Nov. 23 Monday, Board Meeting, 7:30 (Harrison's)
- Nov. 27 Deadline for Spore Prints Materials. Send all material to 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115
- Dec. 14 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

LAST FIELD TRIP OF THE SEASON Dick Sieger

Nov. 7 & 8 Lake Arrowhead. Start from the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant on 1st Street in Shelton. Take the road that goes up the hill at an angle, cross over the highway and pass Isabella Lake; 25 miles from Shelton there is a "Y" just past Cloquallum, a very small town with a few houses along the road. Take the right fork of the "Y", blacktop rather than gravel, and continue for about 1.5 miles. Turn left into the parking lot next to the lodge.

THE SIZE OF MYCELIA: Patrick Flanagan of the University of Alaska Institute of Arctic Biology, calculates the average weight of underground fungal mass (mycelia) at a ton per land acre.

Membership Meeting

Monday, November 9, 1981, 8:00 pm in the McCurdy Room of the Museum of History and Industry.

Program: My Favorite Edibles will feature a number of speakers. Each one will describe his/her favorite edible mushroom The talks will include why they like this mushroom best; where they find this mushroom; and how they like to prepare this delicious, edible fungus. This program should include a lot of information for everybody, novice and experienced collectors.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

President Hermanson thanked the co-chairmen of the 1981 Annual Exhibit, Don Schultz and Bob Hanna for an outstanding show. We heard only favorable comments. Especially the NAMA members from the East coast who had arrived early, were overwhelmed. They had never seen anything like this.

Then came the question: How did we do financially? At press time not all bills were in and paid, but our Treasurer indicated that those will be available next month. Disregarding the financial results, the Exhibit serves many important functions for our Society. The public gets a valuable education about the mushrooms of the Northwest. The Exhibit binds all of our members together as they work on a common cause. It in a way is the biggest event in our annual activities. And, it also results in a sizeable addition to our membership, which is necessary for any organization's viability.

Again, our Society can justly be proud for putting on the best and most professional Mushroom Exhibit in the U.S.A.

President Hermanson also thanked the co-chairmen of the NAMA National Foray, Dick Sieger and Ben Woo for this successful venture. As a matter of fact, comments were heard that NAMA would like to come to Fort Worden every year, if their by-laws would allow it. (They annually vary the site between the East Coast, Central USA, and West Coast.) No financial results are available, since the Foray concluded the day before the Board meeting. But again the Easterners were surprised that here in the Pacific Northwest not only were the mushrooms more plentiful but all were much bigger in size than they are used to finding. Joy Spurr's NAMA Foray Report appears on page 3.

The committee looking for a new meeting site for our Society is hard at work. However, at press time, it had not found a location which has as good an access as the Museum. Should some member know of a site, please call Monte Hendrickson (523 – 2892) and he will relay it to the committee.

Another item of concern to all Societies in the Northwest is the increasing commercial collecting of mushrooms, especially chanterelles. What can we do about this? Will it reduce the fruiting in future years, because of such heavy collecting?

When the Board meeting reached the informal stage, it was discovered that our Society actually did not have a channel through which members' suggestions would be followed up. Margo Harrison (phone 932–1612) is willing to serve in this capacity. So if you want something done, or have a suggestions, please call Margo.

The next Board meeting again will be held at the Harrison's on November 23rd, 1981 at 7:30.

REPORT FROM THE MARGARET MCKENNY FORAY - THE ANNUAL N.A.M.A. FORAY TO FORT WORDEN

Joy Spurr

Judging by the many favorable comments from the participants everyone enjoyed the field trips, programs and good fellowship of the first NAMA foray held in the State of Washington. The food was good and accommodations were warm and comfortable. The weather cooperated by furnishing ample rain early in October that produced abundant fruiting for the foray. It did not rain during the foray period, but Port Townsend was enveloped in fog during the four days.

Morning classes for beginners and intermediates were given by Michael Beug and Kit Scates, and beginning microscopy by Judy Roger. The rest of the day was open for field trips, sorting, identification, and key trials. In late afternoon Larry Stickney, from San Francisco, kept members busy tasting the fruits of his gourmet cooking abilities with mushrooms.

Evening programs were as follows: Thursday... Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz gave a brief talk on remembrances of Margaret McKenny, in whose honor the foray was named. Dr. Michael Beug showed slides of mushrooms found on the Olympic Peninsula.

Friday evening NAMA photo contest award-winning pictures shown. A slide-illustrated program on Pleurotoid Fungi of the Pacific Northwest by Dr. Susan Libonati-Barnes.

Saturday evening.... A report of the taxonomic study on morels presented by Margaret Dilly. Dyeing with Mushroom Pigments by Caroline Higgins. Mycotechtonic Echoes of Mt. St. Helens by Dr. David Hosford.

NAMA gives an annual award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology. Dr. Orson K. Miller, Associate Professor of Botany, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, is the recipient of the award for 1981, presented to him at the foray.

Total attendance was 329 with members coming from Michigan Iowa, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Ohio, North Carolina, Virginia, Wisconsin, New York, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Illinois, Florida, New Hampshire, Vermont, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, and Alaska.

About 350 mushrooms were identified and placed on display. The largest gilled mushroom found was <u>Agaricus augustus</u>, the cap 11 inches in diameter, stem was the same length. The smallest mushroom was the lovely, pinkish-red <u>Mycena rosella</u>. <u>Lepista nuda</u> was more abundant than <u>Cantharellus cibarius</u>. <u>Clitocybe dilitata</u> and <u>Clitocybe dealbata</u> were in ample supply in the immediate area. Several very large <u>Boletus edulis</u> put in an appearance. Many large fairy rings were fruiting on the parade grounds.

Identification of mushrooms was well organized. By the use of keys constructed by members of the Pacific Northwest Key Council, participants were encouraged to identify their finds themselves. They were assisted by Key Council members. Names on identified mushrooms were verified by Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz and his assistants before they were placed on the display tables. Added attractions were small clumps of lichens and mosses and branches of native trees and shrubs, all properly identified, displayed along with the mushrooms.

Gifts to those attending the foray included copies of keys of some of the common mushroom genera from Puget Sound Myco-

logical Society, pencils from Peoples Bank and plastic bags from Eddie Bauer, Inc. All registrants received a bright green T-shirt to commemorate the foray.

The committee chairmen and their assistants deserve congratulations for the time and effort they put into making this a successful foray.

NAMA is a worthwhile source of information and pleasure to mushroom hunters and I would encourage anyone interested in mycology to become a member of this organization, and thereby participate in the forays and receive the excellent newsletter.

DALLES FOREST CAMP FIELD TRIP REPORT Dina Chybinski

At this field trip, on October 3 & 4, approximately 20 members of the Seattle Audubon Society met on Saturday at 10 am at the shelter for a mushroom walk led by Milton Grout. They made their own unique contribution by identifying the sassy birds (Gray or Canada Jays) who kept swooping for brightcolored mushroom bits. In addition, the following birds were sighted: Black-capped, Chestnut-backed, and Mountain Chickadees; Pileated Woodpecker, Hermit and Swainson's Thrush, Audobon and Myrtle Warblers.

Amid alternating sun and showers, a few lucky pothunters found <u>Sparassis radicata</u>, a few Gypsies, a smattering of <u>Lactarius deliciosus</u>. The real excitement was the wide variety of fungal oddities: 110 species were identified, with panache, by Brian Luther. Virtually the whole spectrum of Amanitas was there. Sensual delight was provided by the almond scent (similar to that of <u>Clitocybe odora</u>) of Ella Cantelon's <u>Ischnoderma resinosum</u>. Good vision found the tiny (1/4" or less) Microcollybia which grows only on decayed mushrooms of other species.

Enjoyed by over 60, the routinely scrumptious potluck offered such surprises as fried wontons and sushi (a Japanese delicacy made of sweetened rice in a seaweed casing around a core of fish cake, gourd and mushroom slices). Also, this writer has never set tooth to a more delicious chocolate cake as was brought for dessert.

We thank Dina and Joe for hosting this trip on Saturday. They were ably assisted by Fay and Howard Melsen, who continued on Sunday.

OF THIS AND THAT

MYCOPHILATELY: A list of 75 postage stamps depicting fungi from 43 countries will be sent for 35¢ by writing to: Bill Long, Star Route, Afton, MI 49705.

A souvenir packet of four stamps, featuring <u>Cortinarius cinnabarinus</u>, <u>Coprinus comatus</u>, <u>Armillaria luteobubalina</u> and <u>Cortinarius austrovenetus</u>, has been issued by the Australian Postal Department. Send \$2.30 (U.S.) to GPA, Box 9988, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia, and you will get these stamps.

MUSHROOM ARTICLE: National Wildlife magazine for October/November 1981 ran an interesting mushroom article, titled "Mycologists Have More Fungi," by Wallace Kaufman, who is associated with the North Carolina Conservation Foundation. It deals with the 1980 NAMA Foray held in the Smoky Mountains, Not all information about edibility is accurate in the article. Also the fruiting season of different mushrooms varies in different parts of the country. An article featured in a national publication should be based on better research.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS FIELD TRIP REPORT

Joy Spurr

After two and a half months of hot, dry weather and the first rain of the season occurring just a week prior to this field trip (held September 26 & 27) I did not expect to see many mushrooms this weekend. But never underestimate dedicated mushroom hunters. Half a dozen species were already on the table when we arrived in camp Friday evening. I tagged them with identification labels and placed them in the middle of the I.D. table. By noon Saturday, these half-dozen specimens were lost in a sea of mushrooms. Although there were no large quantities found of any one species, representation of the mushroom flora of this area was excellent. Ninety specimens were identified as to species and another twenty were identified to genus. The largest specimen was Boletus coniferarum. Its cap measured 13 inches in diameter. Among the smallest was a beautiful "planting" of bright orange-red Mycena strobilinoides. Among the unusual fungi were three golden-yellow Pholiota flammons, a fine cluster of blue black Polyozellus multiplex, and a fresh specimen of Geastrum saccatum.

Saturday was a beautiful sunny, but cool, day until the rain started just as we finished dinner. 62 members and guests registered. 39 stayed for potluck dinner. Surprise guests were Dr. and Mrs. K. Asano and their son, from Vancouver, B.C. Several of us had met Dr. Asano many years ago, when he and Dr. Bandoni of the University of British Columbia hosted PSMS members on a field trip to Golden Ears Provincial Park. The Asanos have been PSMS members since that time. They brought the good news that a mushroom club is now organized in Vancouver.

Thanks to: Brian Luther for identifying almost all of the mushrooms that were brought in; to Chuck and Virginia Kessner for two jugs of "just-off-the-press" apple cider; to Sigrun Budnik for starting the early morning fires; to two unknown persons who donated delicious home-made cookies for the coffee-breaks; to the person who left a shiny silver dollar in a white plastic cup beside the stove (this goes into the treasury to buy more coffee); to Dave Schmitt who provided a generator and light during dinner; and to all participants who contributed good food and good fellowship and helped to make the field trip a happy occasion.

P.S. added by your editor: And all participants thank Joy and Roger for hosting this trip, which significantly added to making it a great success.

Unfortunately, very few members (and always the same) now volunteer for hosting duties on field trips, so that Joy and Roger were kept in camp all the time. Ideally, more than one family and/or person should share in the hosting of a field trip. Hosted field trips are unique to PSMS. Most other Societies meet at a designated spot at a set time, then they take off, collect till mid-afternoon, return to the camp, identify the mushrooms found, and then return home.

If PSMS will be forced to go to this format, we will not be able to share the pleasant experiences any more which Joy reported above. And, field trips may die out altogether. If every PSMS member just volunteers to host a field trip every other year, we could not schedule enough field trips. However, I challenge every member who has enjoyed a field trip in our usual, accustomed format, to come forth and register with the field trip chairman, so he/she can be called when the new season comes in the spring. You are already too late for the first field trip in the spring to Carnation, because Monte and I have already signed up. Don't put this issue of Spore Prints aside, and say: "I'll do it later." Do it right now!!!!!

MYCOPHAGY

H.R.H.

Mycophagy (look it up in Webster) will become a regular feature of Spore Prints. Charlotte Turner-Zila is providing the input. Due to space limitations we went chronologically printing Ethel's Antipasto (by popular demand) in this issue.

In December we will feature a mycophagy report from the 1981 NAMA Foray. Each month we will print a gourmet recipe with mushrooms. The first recipe will include Blewits, so save some.

ANTI - PASTO

Ethel Bennett

All the members who were lucky enough to get a taste of Ethel's Anti-Pasto which she had brought to the Annual Exhibit, kept raving about it, that we asked Ethel for the recipe. Here it is:

BASIC INGREDIENTS

APPROX. AMOUNTS

3 to 4 stalks, cut or sliced

Mushrooms (see below^{*})** celery green pepper onions red pepper or small jar pimiento black seedless olives water chestnuts garbanzo beans capers parsley sesame seeds cheese Italian herbs Garlic Wine (if desired)

Vinegar Oil Salt & Pepper

*** Regarding the mushrooms: many different ones can be used: chanterelles; agaricus sp., sparassis; clavaria; pond osa: commercial etc. These must be CANNED or COOK

see below

used: chanterelles; agaricus sp., sparassis; clavaria; ponderosa; commercial, etc. These must be <u>CANNED or COOKED</u> before adding.Quantity of mushrooms depends on your taste. All solid ingredients are best if cut in pieces suitable for a snack tray.

Added ingredients and/or substitutes: for the dressing I use Italian salad dressing. I add a small jar of cocktail onions with juice, a good sprinkle of Worcestershire sauce, 3 to 4 drops of Tobasco sauce; Johnny's seasoning salt (or Lawry's) green olives, and often I make the Italian dressing from "good season" package mix.

Everyone's taste varies, so I suggest you "add and taste". Because of the vinegar, you can keep this anti-pasto for a couple of months in your refrigerator, if it lasts that long. This is best made a day or two before serving.

Call Ethel (784 - 6236) if you don't succeed the first time!

MUSHROOM STUFFED EGGS Myco. Assn. Wash. (DC).

6 eggs, hard boiled; 3/4 cup mushrooms; butter; mayonnaise; parsley.

Peel and halve the eggs. Saute the finely chopped mushrooms in butter. Add the mushrooms to mashed egg yolks and add mayonnaise to desired consistency. Stuff the whites with the mixture and garnish with parsley and a slice of sauteed mushroom.