

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2559 NE 96th, Seattle, Washington, 98115

June 1982

Number 183



JUN 8 1982

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL EXHIBIT UNDER WAY

The 1982 Annual Exhibit will be held, Saturday and Sunday October 16 & 17 at the Monroe Center. The site at the Seattle Center was not available at suitable dates, and the costs there have become very high. As a result, the Board, at the recommendation of the Show Chairman, Carl Hermanson, voted to hold this year's Show at our new meeting place, the Monroe Center.

Again it is not too early to decide that YOU are going to help putting on the Show, and to get in touch, the sooner the better, with the chairperson(s) of the committee(s) you can assist. Actually, you don't need to be an expert, in order to help. The chairpersons know what has to be done. But they need assistance. YOU will be given instructions, and we can find a job for everyone.

It is a very rewarding experience to participate in putting on the Show, so don't delay, and sign up right away. This call for help addresses all members, old and new, young and old.

1982 ANNUAL EXHIBIT COMMITTEES

General Exhibit Chairman	Carl Hermanson	723-5127
Assistant	Bob Hanna	767-6381
Arts & Crafts	Tatiana Roats	842-3750
Book Sales	Judy & Ernie Boa	725-1235
Clean-Up	Monte Hendrickson	523-2892
Construction	Joe Cail	243-8492
Commercial	Bob Hanna	767-6381
Decorations	LomNee March	885-0375
Feel & Smell	Ed & Ella Cantelon	242-6115
Freeze Dry	Dr. Patricia Winter	486-4264
Fungi in Foodstuff	Lois Ohlson	242-6523
Fungus Collecting	Elizabeth Dequine	789-6728
Greenery Collection	Paul Rule	1-794-8987
Greeters	Earl & Margo Harrison	932-1612
Hospitality	Betty Okura	722-9011
Identification	Charles Volz	363-5465
Labeling	Helena Kirkwood	784-1095
Membership	Aino Kunz	362-7402
Micro-Projection	Dick Sieger	362-6860
Mushroom Dyes	Ella Cantelon	242-6115
	Caroline Higginsq	725-9369
Mushroom Receiving	Ed & Ella Cantelon	242-6115
Preservation	Jennie Schmittq	1-876-3177
Publicity	Marian Maxwell	271-7086
	Richard Pauli	282-3525
Security	Don Schultz	226-2217
Sorting Boxes	Carl Hermanson	723-5127
Tray Arrangement	Margaret Dilly	782-8511

EXTRA HELP IS NEEDED FOR SHOW PUBLICITY

Since PSMS is moving the Annual Exhibit out of the Seattle Center area, we have a bigger task in the publicity area. Anyone who has connections with any media, especially in the suburban areas, please contact Marian Maxwell (271-

7086) or Richard Pauli (282-3525) and tell them about it. We have found that paid advertisements are tremendously expensive. However, most newspapers and radio stations are willing to give us some free coverage. PSMS will prepare a news release and/or article. But we have found that there is better success in getting it printed and/or aired if personal contact was made with the media people.

We would also appreciate support from members who live in nearby towns. It would be helpful to get information about our Exhibit and the changed location into their newspapers and on the air.

The two chairmen welcome any suggestions, or better yet, actual help from our members. But this activity has to be started during the summer months, so don't wait until the fall but call them immediately. They have already laid the groundwork, and can accomplish a lot WITH HELP. They cannot do it alone. Both plan to be at the June membership meeting, and you can meet them and sign up to help on this important committee.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF MYCOLOGY IN NORTH AMERICA

was prepared by Donald P. Rogers, Department of Botany, University of Illinois, for the 50th anniversary of the Mycological Society of America. It is a 86 page paperback sketching mycological history in the form of the biographies of mainly deceased mycologists of North America. Even though the history is brief, it would have taken a lot of work from many sources to come up with such a work. Some of the sources are unpublished material. You may order this history from Mycological Society of America, c/o Farlow Herbarium, 20 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138. Price is \$5.00 post paid.

MUSHROOMS, THE FOOD OF THE FUTURE

The following article is copied from the March-April 1982 issue of The Mycophile.

Dr. Fred Hayes, Aston University, Birmingham, England, in a report to the 11th International Congress on the Cultivation of Edible Fungi in Sydney, Australia, stated that edible fungi have an enormous potential as a nutritious food source, capable of feeding millions. Mushrooms contain up to 40% protein, higher than most vegetables and high levels of such vitamins as thiamine, riboflavine, and niacin. Mushrooms may produce 22 tons of protein per acre per year. This equals that of beef and fish! The fact that mushrooms grow on waste materials is a great advantage over the common growth of vegetables in farmland. Commercial mushroom production uses compost made up of such wastes as wheat straw, chicken and horse manure, cotton seed hulls, corn cobs and gypsum. In other countries the compost may be made up of rice straw, banana leaves, sugarcane wastes, etc. ... Every year millions of tons of agricultural wastes are burned or just dumped and left to rot. The very people who discard this hunger for good food. Good management in the so-called Third World could feed thousands of their people.

Membership Meeting

Monday, June 14, 1982, 8:00 pm in the auditorium of the MONROE CENTER, 1810 N.W. 65th Street, Seattle.

Program: Dr. Susan Libonati Barnes will present a slide lecture on the genus *Hohenbuehelia* and *Resupinatus* which were discussed in her doctoral dissertation. This will be a very interesting program on lesser known mushrooms.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The minutes of the April Board Meeting were approved as presented. The Treasurer, Ferris Anderson presented a cash flow statement for the month of April, and past Treasurer Earl Harrison presented the financial report for the past year which is reproduced elsewhere in this issue. Due to the break-even results of last year's exhibit and the \$3,000 loss on hosting the 1981 NAMA foray, PSMS equity declined.

Carl Hermanson, Chairman for the 1982 Annual Exhibit presented a cost comparison of last year's costs at the Seattle Center and projected costs of holding the Exhibit at the Monroe Center. He also made a revenue projection. Based on this information, the Board voted to set the admission price for adults at \$2.00; for senior citizens and students (6 - 18 years) at \$1.50 and children under 6: free. The Board decided that all members, whether they help on the Exhibit or not, should be admitted free. A list of the various committee heads is presented in another section of this issue, so that members can call and sign up to help.

The Board authorized Carl Hermanson to negotiate the dates for next year's membership- and board meetings at the Monroe Center. The prices will remain the same as this year. Carl also is investigating renting storage space at the Monroe Center for our Show material. It would be more convenient and (hopefully cheaper) to have it at the Center.

Education Committee Chairman, Dennis Krabbenhoft, reported the formation of a committee which is revising PSMS Educational Pamphlet.

President Grout reported that he outlined various options for the format of next year's banquet. The Board voted that the Banquet Committee Chairman, Charlotte Turner-Zila can choose a different location than where the banquet has been held the past three years.

Very few members have volunteered to host field trips that it is getting more difficult to hold them in our accustomed format. Anyone willing to host a field trip in the fall should call Field Trip Chairman Charles Volz (363-5465) and sign up. You will be called in the fall.

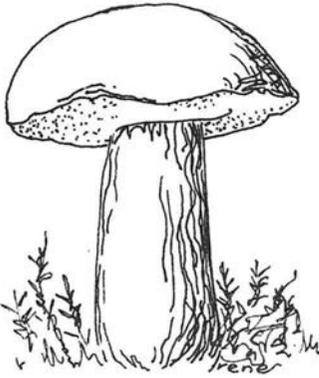
Book Sales Chairpersons, Judi and Ernie Boa have updated the inventory and books will be for sale at every membership meeting. Also, the antique mushroom prints have been repriced and are available for sale.

OF THIS AND THAT

H.R.H.

We have heard that after spending over a month at Group Health Hospital, Helen Wasson is now home and continues to recuperate from the home accident in which she sustained several bone breaks. Hope to see you soon at our membership meetings, Helen.

By calling the Cooperative Extension Service of King County you can get (free) Bulletin #440 Trees of Washington published by Washington State University.



P. S. M. S. Spore Prints

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PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2559 N.E. 96th Street, Seattle, Washington 98115.
Direct all mail to this address.

OFFICERS Milton Grout, President, 1984 (1)
John Kunz, Vice-President, 1983 (1)
Ferris Anderson, Treasurer, 1984 (1)
Margaret Holzbauer, Secretary, 1983 (2)

TRUSTEES - Term expires March 1983: Hildegard Hendrickson (1); Monte Hendrickson (1); Grace Jones (2); Dennis Krabbenhoft (2); Agnes Sieger (2).
- Term expires March 1984: Kearney Kozai (1)
Marian Maxwell (1); Richard Pauli (1); Don Schultz (2); Charles Volz (1).

ALTERNATES: Ernie Boa; Judi Boa; Charlotte Turner-Zila.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Carl Hermanson

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR: Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

Calendar

June 14, Monday, Beginners' Class at 6:45 pm

Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

NO MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST

Have a nice summer!

August 23, Monday, Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

August 27, Deadline for Spore Prints Material. Send to the Editor, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115.

September 13, Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

Oct. 16 & 17, The 19th Annual Exhibit at the Monroe Center

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Lynn Caione: 932-3327; Richard & Carol Caufield: 833 - 0904; Jennifer Fairfield: 828-6800; Leonard & Wanda Horst: 1-697-2517; Jettie Person: 634-2469; Ismael Rabago, Jr.: 282-5576.

BOOK SALES AVAILABLE AT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

PSMS members get a small discount on books bought through the Society. You may want to look our selection over and add a good mushroom book to your collection. Also the antique mushroom prints, taken from woodcuts from the 1729 publication *NOVA PLANTARUM GENERA* by Pierantonio Micheli have been repriced and merit your attention. They make superb gifts to yourself and friends.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO OSTROM'S H.R.H.

May 1, 1982 was a bright, sunny Saturday morning that brought 105 members and friends to the mushroom farm at Lacey. We knew we would have a good turnout from the orders for fresh mushrooms that had been placed. Bill Porter, the marketing manager met us in the parking lot. When he saw our crowd, he summoned three growers, Chris Street, Rod Sorensen and Kathy Harvey to assist him with the tour.

There has been a commercial mushroom farm at the present Ostrom site since the 1930's. Green Giant Company operated it until 1967 when Ostrom's took over. Ostrom's had been located in the Lake City area of Seattle from the 1930's till then. Both commercial farms canned all their output until 1969. Now the demand for fresh mushrooms is so great they can barely keep up with the demand. And, as you know our visit to Ostrom's was delayed over a year, while their recent expansion was going on. At the present time one can see the oldest of the old methods (in sheds) to the newest of the new methods (the Pennsylvania tray method and the Dutch tunnel method) used at Ostrom's. I don't remember all the details of our tour, but at the end we saw one growing room in which the pickers had just started to harvest the first flush of *Agaricus*. What a sight that was. You should have seen the size of some of these "store-bought" mushrooms.

The growing of Shiitake mushrooms had been added since our last tour to Ostrom's. This is a separate operation run by Far East Mushroom Inc., which now has 160,000 logs in operation. Fresh Shiitake have been available in the Seattle area since last September. Safeway was their first account and started with 700 lbs. a month. Now the monthly sales amount to 2,500 lbs. So far, all Shiitake output is sold in the fresh market, and the company can barely keep up with the demand. At the present time Shiitake are grown on oak logs, but the firm is experimenting with alder wood.

Since our trip was so successful, we don't plan to wait as long to schedule another tour.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS FIELD TRIP REPORT H.R.H.

It sure has been a strange spring mushroom season. On May 22, 1982 there was still a good-sized snow drift at the entrance to this forest camp so that we could not drive in. But the Forest Service nevertheless, gave us permission to use the shelter for our "headquarters", and allowed members to camp in a level, gravel area further up the road.

For collecting we had to go further east, where there was less snow on the ground. At Cabin Creek all signs looked right, and were, except that some family (not associated with PSMS) had gotten up early on Saturday, and showed us the some 5 gallons of *Verpa bohemica* they had collected prior to our arrival. Some of our new members did find additional *Verpas* and morels. We moved further east and ultimately, I think, everyone had a few to take home and taste for the first time. The Carbonattos visited familiar sites, and returned to camp with the first *Boletus edulis* of the season. Charles Volz identified 20 different species. Sigrun Budnik was the host on Saturday. Thirty-six members and guests had a delicious potluck dinner. Actually, you get a report of only Saturday's activities, since my busy schedule called us back to Seattle. But nobody called me and provided additional information.

TUMWATER FIELD TRIP REPORT H.R.H.

Again you receive only a report of Saturday's activities. However, for this report there cannot be an updating, since this

issue went to press the next Monday.

Saturday, May 29th, the first day of a three day weekend, had very nice and sunny weather. And that had been the way it had been the previous three weeks, as the ranger told us. Only Thursday, May 27th did it rain. As a result, the collecting was sparse. A few, mostly mature morels were found. In a few locations, very dry and cracked *Boletus edulis* were found. The only mushrooms still in prime condition were some corals. These also were in abundance. Charles Volz, assisted by Howard Melsen identified some 30 different species. Betty Okura was our host on Saturday. 46 members and guests had signed the register, and 36 stayed for the sumptuous potluck dinner.

Tumwater camp filled quickly on Friday afternoon. However, the ranger allowed some of our members to camp in the group camping area immediately in front of the shelter.

REPORT FROM THE NAMA MOREL FORAY T. Roats

May is morel month in Michigan - supposedly - so my expectations of being photographed buried to my neck in morels proved to be a bit overzealous, especially when conditions proved to be "too early" and "too dry." This we discovered easily after the first morning foray with 90 plus other participants at the University of Michigan Biological Station on the northern tip of the lush green peninsula, Michigan, on Lake Douglas. The *Verpas* were still in great abundance though slightly over-the-hill, and where they appeared in the trillium carpeted hardwood forest we found an abundance of white morels and some black. The mixed conifer and hardwood forest yielded black morels and quantities of the luscious looking *Gyromitra esculenta* and *Discina* sp. After a rather intimidating talk on *Gyromitra* poisoning by Dr. George Hatfield the first evening, we abandoned our intentions to again try the *G. esculenta* as we do every year when morel hunting is sparse. The next evening a humorous history of the morel was delivered by Dr. Nancy Smith Weber.

Many of the more familiar faces at the foray were Drs. Alexander and Helen Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Knighton, editors of *Mycophile*, Larry Stickney, mycophagist extra-ordinaire, and Dr. Scott Chilton. There were four people from the Northwest, of whom yours truly and spouse were two. The foray was chaired by Martie Cochran and MC'd by Dr. Ken Cochran. Like all good mushroomers we rolled with the punches, and are already planning our mode of transportation for the next morel foray by train through Canada. The scenery was stupendous as we drove homeward. Next time there will be no need for our RV as drying facilities were furnished.

MUSHROOM SPORES BEHIND ASTHMA?

The following article by Marilyn Dunlop appeared in the Toronto Star on March 9, 1982 and came to us via the Mycological Society of Toronto.

Mushroom spores may trigger more asthma attacks than ever realized, Dr. John Santilli, a Connecticut allergy specialist, told the annual meeting of the American Academy of Allergies. Santilli said he had skin-tested 100 asthmatic patients and found every one allergic to mushroom spores. "Every year there is a big upswing in the number of people admitted to hospitals with asthma in October and November." So far it's been unexplained but now he thinks spores are the answer. For at least some patients, mushroom spores may be the only cause of asthma. Such patients may have asthma attacks in

the spring as well as the fall. After being damped down by snow in winter, spores become active travellers again.

ANNUAL MUSHROOM CONTEST

The Cle Elum Sons of Italy Lodge will again sponsor the annual Boletus Mushroom Contest for the 22nd consecutive year. And a new contest has been added. Beginning on April 1st and extending through June, the Lodge will offer a \$5 cash prize for the largest and heaviest morel mushroom brought to the City Hardware and weighed by Russ Skinner. The mushroom can be either an early edible morel (Morchella esculenta) or a late narrow capped morel (M. angusticeps). In that area morels fruit from March through June.

The finder of the heaviest Boletus will be declared King or Queen at the coronation ball to be held at the Eagles Lodge in Cle Elum in late June, prior to the annual Pioneer Days events. The Boletus contest begins May 1st and continues through the month of June. The rules of this contest are the same as in previous years. No age restrictions, all Boletus must be edible and in a good state of preservation. The heaviest in weight (dust free) single stemmed Boletus mushroom entered in the contest and officially weighed by Russ at the City Hardware will be declared the winner. There also is a cash prize.

This information was provided by the Central Washington Mycological Society's newsletter.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Earl Harrison

The financial results of PSMS operations and the Statement of Financial Position for the last three years are presented below.

PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY RESULTS OF OPERATIONS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1981, 1980 and 1979

	1981	1980	1979
Membership			
Dues	\$ 5,356.00	\$ 5,111.00	\$ 3,465.50
Less - Membership Expenses	(1,179.33)	(856.80)	(923.87)
- Bulletin Costs	(2,535.62)	(2,110.01)	(2,333.97)
- Field Trips	(126.39)	(171.54)	(103.42)
- General Expenses	(233.40)	(570.88)	(850.65)
Net	\$ 1,282.26	\$ 1,401.77	\$ (746.41)
Banquets			
Receipts	\$ 3,531.00	\$ 2,800.52	\$ 1,273.95
Less - Expense	(3,629.49)	(2,923.75)	(1,758.55)
Net	\$ (98.49)	\$ (123.23)	\$ (484.60)
Exhibit, Classes			
Book Sales	\$ 4,258.54	\$ 4,200.60	\$ 2,729.73
Income - Exhibit, Classes	3,595.00	3,200.00	2,681.05
Less - Cost of Books Sold	(2,756.67)	(2,860.09)	(3,950.29)
Less - General Exhibit Expenses	(4,624.34)	(4,822.89)	(2,161.39)
- Donations, Scholarships	(2,304.00)	(2,316.47)	(2,095.00)
- Depreciation	(286.68)	(179.90)	(160.73)
- NAMA Foray Loss	(3,013.13)	---	---
Net	\$(5,131.28)	\$(2,778.75)	\$(2,956.63)
Royalties	\$ 723.93	\$ 682.51	\$ 657.28
Interest	405.31	417.55	388.18
Net Gain (Loss) for Year	\$(2,819.27)	\$(400.15)	\$(3,142.18)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	1981	1980	1979
Assets			
Cash - Checking + On-Hand	\$ 3,969.45	\$ 9,923.67	\$ 7,118.17
- Savings	8,112.34	7,738.19	7,381.30
- Restricted (Note 1)	1,346.71	1,315.55	1,254.89
Total Cash	\$13,428.50	\$18,977.41	\$15,754.36
Accounts Receivable	\$ 483.36	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,438.55
Book Inventory, etc.	6,282.09	2,866.58	4,685.02
Equipment, Net of Depreciation	427.81	714.49	502.88
Mycological Library	949.77	949.77	949.77
Total Assets	\$21,571.53	\$24,008.25	\$24,330.58
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 588.85	\$ 206.30	\$ 128.48
Equity - January 1	23,801.95	24,202.10	27,344.28
Gain (Loss) for Year	(2,819.27)	(400.15)	(3,142.18)
Total Equity	\$20,982.68	\$23,801.95	\$24,202.10
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$21,571.53	\$24,008.25	\$24,330.58

Note 1: "Set aside" funds for educational or scientific purposes.

SPORE ART

Dr. Sam Ristich

The following article appeared in the newsletter of the Connecticut Mycological Society.

For the past ten years I have been encouraging people in the stimulating hobby of spore art. If you are capable of doing your own composing and framing, spore art can be a challenging hobby, but also a source of money.

The important ingredients are the proper paper or index cards, lacquer spray with a fine nozzle, optimum age fungi, and covers for the fungi while you are spore printing.

A. For Framing: I find semiglossy (one or both sides) opalescent mylar sheets are the best. These are sold in most art, stationary or drafting stores in rolls 17-24" wide. It is not cheap, but it is waterproof, very electrostatic to hold spores while you spray, and you can overprint and respray. If you choose paper, look for something with the characteristics of index cards.

Steps: (1) Place sheets on flat surface, select fungi and covers. For stipitate forms cut the stipe as close to the cap as practical without bruising gills. For large forms (4" or larger) cut stem long enough to keep gills or pores off the paper. This technique will reduce smudging and spore pile-up.

(2) Arrange fungi on paper leaving room for a border.

(3) Place cover on fungi. If you want wisping designs, prop covers onto a pencil or some thinner object. Air currents will cause the wispy design.

(4) Check spore density in one hour. Good "spore givers" make excellent prints in one hour. If spores are too dense, you need more spray to fix the print thus detracting from the design. If one hour is not sufficient, set the timer for another hour.

(5) Lift fungi off the sheet carefully to prevent smudging by using a knife or needle.

(6) Spraying - Tape sheet in some area like a cellar or garage about 10 minutes after you have lifted off the fungi. Don't spray lacquer in the house. Keep at least 12" from the print while you spray. Spray in sweeping movements and only about 5 seconds between sprays. Check your coverage after each 5-second spray cycle. Most prints can be fixed by three five-second sprays. Over spraying will result in bleeding and pile-up. If in doubt, wait 10 minutes and stroke lightly. Give another 5-second burst. If print is fixed completely you can overprint in about an hour. (Do not use shellac or varnish, since these dry too slowly and may leave color.)

Caution: Make trial runs on index cards before you tie up valuable money on mylar. Do not allow printing to continue overnight. If water accumulates on sheet, allow it to evaporate before you spray. Most excellent "spore givers" will make five to six prints 1 to 1-1/2 hours apart. Some of the best sporophores are (a) gilled: Stropharia rugoso-annulata, Pluteus cervinus, Psatharella condolleana, Coprinus atramentarius, Pholiota sp., Crepidotus sp., Russulas (cream-yellow spores); (b) non-gilled: all boletes if not too old or too wormy, "ripe" Daldinia, Hydniums, Hydnellums, Ramarias, especially Ramaria stricta. If you wish to overprint the dark prints, use white spored gilled species, such as Russulas, Lepiotas, Oudemansiella radicata.

B. For Cards: Use any size index card and follow the same system as for mylar with the following admonitions:

(1) Watch for condensation since paper is not waterproof.

(2) Spray more gently to prevent spore "blow off."

Overall cautions: Don't select sporophores which are too old, since these have insects (on mylar these insect tracks make fascinating designs) and contain considerable moisture. Also watch the reverse, if the sporophores are not mature, spores will not be "cast." Do not overprint! Thick deposits are not easily fixed.

For more details drop me a line: Box 311, RR 2, Sligo Rd., Cumberland Center, Maine 04021.