

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2559 NE 96th, Seattle, Washington, 98115

September 1982

Number 184



FIELD TRIPS

Charles Volz

Sept. 18 & 19 **Masonic Park:** Four miles east of Granite Falls. Go to Snohomish and follow State Highway #9 (north) to the turnoff to State Highway #92. Follow #92 (east) to the town of Granite Falls and continue east for about 4 miles. Watch for the sign that directs you to turn left to the Masonic Park. At the registration desk PSMS will collect a day-use fee of \$1.00 per car per day, or a fee of \$3.00 per night for camping. The park is open to non-Masons only this weekend. The entrance gate is closed after 9:00 pm and no one may enter or leave after this. Hosts are Jack & Navarre Orth. We hope to find chanterelles.

Sept. 25 & 26 **Soda Springs:** Travel east on State Highway #410 over Chinook Pass. About 17 miles past the summit, turn right onto Bumping Lake road #174 and continue for about 5 miles to Soda Springs Forest Camp (which is on your left). Hosts are Dave and Jennie Schmitt. In good years we can expect white chanterelles Boletus edulis and Armillaria ponderosa for edibles.

Oct. 2 & 3 **Crystal Springs:** Travel on Interstate 90 east over Snoqualmie Pass. Nine miles past the summit, take the "Stampede Pass" exit #62. Turn right at the stop sign, then right again just before the bridge. Hosts are Gilbert & Alice Austin. We often find Boletus edulis, Leccinum aurantiacum, Armillaria ponderosa and white chanterelles.

Oct. 9 & 10 **The Dalles:** Travel east on State Highway #410. The Dalles Forest Camp is about 25 miles south-east of Enumclaw, on the right. Hosts are Howard & Fay Melsen. Pot hunters will look for all of the good fall species, especially Rozites caperata, the gypsy.

PSMS FALL MUSHROOM IDENTIFICATION CLASSES

The very popular, necessary and rewarding fall class in mushroom identification will be held Monday evenings from 7 to 9 pm at the Monroe Center (third floor, Room 317.)

Classes will be held beginning Monday, September 20th and will run on consecutive Mondays through November 15th, except for regular Society meeting nights. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged to pay for renting the room. In addition, there will be a price of \$3.00 charged for the PSMS Educational Pamphlet for those who want to buy it. The class again will be taught by Milton Grout

All common genera will be covered and will be amply illustrated with slides from the PSMS collection. The class will be structured with the beginner in mind, but will be in sufficient depth to interest the intermediate groups as well, and will

also serve as a good review for the more advanced.

Fresh specimens directly from the field will be identified and discussed. All participants in the class are requested to bring specimens, and the first half hour will be spent on identification under the expert direction of Howard Melsen.

(P.S. from your editor: our PSMS classes are one of the few remaining bargains in this day and age. Actually, President Grout teaches the class as one of his many contributions to PSMS and would rather not charge a dime; however, the rent for the room has to be paid, and that's all you are charged for. As a past participant (at least twice around) I want to tell you that there are no finer classes being taught!)

CLASSES IN THE SOUTH END

George Rafanelli

George Rafanelli, PSMS charter member and past president will hold 7 classes on mushroom identification on Tuesdays, starting September 21st, from 7 - 9 pm at Chief Sealth Community School, 2600 SW Thistle, Room 121. Tuition is \$15 plus \$3.50 for the PSMS Educational Pamphlet. For additional information call the school, 937-4777. You can register on September 13; 14 & 15 or on the first class session.

CLASSES IN THE NORTH END

Charles Volz

Charles Volz, PSMS charter member and past president will hold classes on mushroom identification at the Lynnwood Recreation Center. Details have not been firmed up, so call the Center at 775-1971 or talk to Charlie at the September membership meeting.

CLASSES AT SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Susan Libonati-Barnes

Dr. Susan Libonati-Barnes will hold a class called To Eat and To Eschew. It will meet Mondays, starting October 4th to November 8th, from 7 - 10 pm at Seattle University. Tuition is \$40. For further information call 626-6626.

STATE GAME DEPARTMENT LAND USE FEE

The Seattle newspapers reported that a small \$5 sticker about the size of a license tab is required if you visit State Game Department lands, and you don't possess a valid hunting and/or fishing license. The decal must be displayed on your vehicle. The areas will be posted with yellow and black signs.

The law was passed by the 1981 Legislature, but enforcement has been stepped up this year, since so far very few decals have been bought. Not having a decal is a misdemeanor and the fine is \$75. The idea of the decal is to make the "non-consumption" visitor - the swimmer, hiker, bird-watcher, photographer (and I presume mushroomer, although not mentioned in the article) foot at least part of the cost of maintaining the areas.

SAVE AND PRESERVE EDIBLE MUSHROOMS FOR BANQUET

Our Survivors Banquet Chairman, Charlotte Turner-Zila, asks our members to dry and/or freeze Chanterelles and Boletus edulis for the Banquet in March. Now is the time to think about this, when you can do something about it.



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Spore
Prints

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

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- 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

- Sept. 13, Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
Sept. 18 & 19 Field Trip to Masonic Park
Sept. 20 Monday, First Session of Fall Mushroom Class 7:00 pm at Monroe Center, 3rd Floor, Rm 317.
Sept. 20 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm
Sept. 24 Deadline for Spore Prints material. Send to the Editor, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115
Sept. 25 & 26 Field Trip to Soda Springs
Sept. 27 Monday, Fall Class, 7:00 pm, Monroe Center
Oct. 2 & 3 Field Trip to Crystal Springs
Oct. 4 Monday, Fall Class, 7:00 pm, Monroe Center
Oct. 9 & 10 Field Trip to the Dalles Camp Ground
Oct. 11 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
Oct. 16 & 17 The 19th Annual Exhibit

13TH ANNUAL FALL BULB SALE BY ARBORETUM

The Arboretum Foundation will hold its 13th Annual Fall Bulb Sale on Wednesday & Thursday, October 6th & 7th from 10 - 5 in the Arboretum Administration Parking Lot. 300 varieties of bulbs will be for sale.

Membership Meeting

Monday, September 13, 1982, 8:00 pm in the auditorium of the MONROE CENTER, 1810 N.W. 65th Street, Seattle.

Program: Woody Plants and Mushrooms is the topic chosen by Joy Spurr for her slide illustrated talk. Joy is a charter member of PSMS and a professional nature photographer, so we will get a real treat. Specifically, Joy plans to discuss the trees in our Pacific Northwest which are important for the growth of mushrooms.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

After accepting the minutes of the May Board Meeting, it was clarified that John Kunz has taken over the chairmanship of the committee which is revising the PSMS educational pamphlet.

President Grout reported that he reviewed and renewed our liability insurance policy, and reported that it seemed adequate for the protection PSMS needs. The President asked whether there was an inventory of the assets of PSMS and if it was current. Nobody seemed to know and the matter will be further pursued.

The fall identification classes will be held at the Monroe Center (in a room on the third floor). Since the rent will be very reasonable (as compared to the very high rent at the Museum last year) the fee was set at \$5.00 plus \$3.00 for the PSMS Educational Pamphlet.

The Book Committee and Booksales Chairman Judy Boa are reviewing our book inventory and will re-price some, so that the members will get some real bargains at the September membership meeting, before these bargains are also available at the Exhibit.

The rent at the Monroe Center for our monthly membership meetings would be substantially higher if the Center sets up the chairs. Therefore, our House Chairman, Kearney Kozai, either needs a volunteer assistant (call him at 632-5145) or Kearney will set up the first row of chairs and our members will pick up a chair as they arrive and set them up themselves. We also will be asked to take the chairs back to the wall after the meeting.

The Publicity Committee for the Exhibit (Marian Maxwell & Richard Pauli) reported about their activities to date.

Our article in the April 1982 issue of Spore Prints has been excerpted in several other mycological publications who also show great concern about the commercial harvesting of chanterelles. The Board was pondering if PSMS should take a formal position, and what this position should be? Should PSMS form a political action committee. Please comment on this issue at the September membership meeting!

IN MEMORIAM: On August 4, 1982 our charter member #26 Ron Brougham died of a heart attack. He retired last year after 42 years with Boeing, and attended the Tumwater fieldtrip. His brother Milton died three days later in Plymouth, Mass. The following poem was composed by Ron:

Anytime you're feeling hungry, and feel that dining is due,
I'll prepare you lentil soup or saute a yellow chanterelle or two.
Anytime you crave a vista. Then just think of my fabulous view.
So anytime your soul needs a battery renew,
That's the time I'll fondly welcome you.

We are facing another challenge this year when we moved the Annual Exhibit to the Monroe Center, but we have started the planning process last spring and are progressing on schedule. For our biggest task, publicity, we will need the help of the TOTAL MEMBERSHIP. Again, our people in charge, Marian Maxwell and Richard Pauli, have laid the groundwork, but the task this year, of informing the public that our Exhibit is held away from where it has been all the prior years, is our biggest job. So we want all of you to tell your friends, relatives, etc. about the Exhibit and especially the new location, and how to get there. At the September membership meeting you can pick up posters to give to your friends and to have displayed in the stores in your neighborhood. We have to get this information as widely disseminated as possible!

In addition, there will be sign-up sheets for all committees at the September meeting so that those members who have not volunteered to help on the many tasks can find one to their liking. The chairman of the committee knows what has to be done, so YOU don't need to be an expert, just willing to help. It is a very rewarding experience!

The dates for the Exhibit, October 16 & 17 fall into our prime fruiting time, so that the availability of fungi should be the least of our worries. As a matter of fact, some have already shown at the time of this writing, which is in August.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN MUSHROOMS

PSMS member Dorothy Tarr, who attended the Telluride Mushroom Conference in Colorado, informs us that for the person who purchased the Audubon Guide to North American Mushrooms by Gary Lincoff, and does not like the common names, can now purchase a sheet with the scientific names. The sheet has an adhesive back so that the names may be cut out and glued over the common names under the pictures. Send \$3.50 (includes postage) to Susan Hamilton, 2110 Wilcrest, Apt. #151, Houston, TX 77042.

Gary Lincoff is issuing a workbook to be used with the guide. The workbook will include a key for the book, and will include many things that the Audubon editors did not want included in the guide. Publication will be September or October 1982 at approx. \$3.00.

POSTERS, CARDS, CALENDARS FOR SALE

At the September membership meeting make it a point to go over to the table and look at the four beautiful, antique mushroom posters (8-1/2" x 11") for sale at \$1.00 each or all four for \$3.50. The posters are reproductions from woodcuts from a 1729 book NOVA PLANTARUM GENERA by Pierantonio Micheli. Judi Boa can send them to you by mail. Then, please add \$1.00 for shipping costs.

THE MORELS, a 22" x 28" four color poster includes excellent illustrations of Morchella esculenta, M. crassipes, M. angusticeps, M. semilibera, Verpa bohemica and V. conica; plus the false morels: Gyromitra esculenta, G. caroliniana, G. brunnea, G. aigas, and G. infula. These posters sell for \$3.95 each or 3 or more for \$3.00 each. Postage and crush-proof mailing tube is \$1.00. Order from Donna Myer, 135 Park Place, Battle Creek, Michigan 49015.

MUSHROOM CARDS: An attractive set of five different spe-

cies with envelopes are now available at \$3.75 per set plus \$1.50 postage. Order from Kristy Guy, 2001 Eureka Canyon Road, Watsonville, California 95076. The mushroom illustrations are reproductions of original colored pencil drawings that illustrate a new mushroom cookbook by David Arora to be published by Ten Speed Press in October 1982.

1983 CALENDAR of Edible Mushrooms with photographs by Orson Miller and David Largent is the first in a series of unique calendars of many uses to be published annually. It also includes recipes. Order for \$5.95 (postage included) from Mad River Press, Inc., Route 2, Box 151-B, Eureka, CA 95501.

MYCOPHOBIA

Dick Sieger

"Please, no more. That is gross!!" is a reader's response to a National Geographic article and photographs showing the spectacular beauty of Mixomycetes. That reader is a victim of mycophobia. Mycophobia comes from the Greek words "mykes", a fungus, and "phobos", dread. Mycophobics avoid, dislike, or fear fungi, particularly as food.

Mycophobia is not limited to humans. There are also mycophobic animals. When Desmond Morris, a British animal behavior expert was testing the food preferences of a chimpanzee, he observed an unexpected, dramatic reaction. The ape sniffed a mushroom and immediately fled from the room in great fear, screaming and defecating. It hid cowering in a corner and refused to re-enter the testing room, whimpering when coaxed to do so. Later, a tamer chimpanzee was given a mushroom. It first sniffed, then attacked the mushroom and tore it apart, throwing the pieces away. In further tests, the ape showed no reaction to a wooden mushroom, but rejected a banana smeared with mushrooms. Neither ape had previous experience with mushrooms, and Dr. Morris concluded that the simian mycophobia was instinctive.

Examples of human mycophobia abound. A reader survey in Pacific Search magazine revealed that mushrooms were their most controversial topic, and that some readers had a definite dislike of the subject. The editor observed that among all living things, snakes and mushrooms seemed to arouse the strongest feelings of hostility. Pacific Search subsequently discontinued its excellent monthly mushroom features.

All of us know persons who will eat neither canned nor fresh mushrooms from grocery stores for fear of poisoning. Even casual statements about mushrooms are prefaced by warnings to avoid them. Someone recently told me, "my cousin died instantly from smoking a magic mushroom." A newspaper interviewed a Tacoma "expert" who said that handling Amanita muscaria causes poisoning. A cartoon has a condemned man saying, "and for my last meal I'd like to eat mushrooms. I've always been afraid to try them before."

In Mushrooms and Other Fungi, Roger Phillips says that the British have a deeply felt, traditional fear of mushrooms, although they are surrounded by nations that relish them. He wonders if this tradition is from Druidic times when mushrooms were considered to have magical properties and hallucinogenic mushrooms were eaten. Vincent Marteka divides the European cultures into two camps: the mycophobic (Iberian, British, Greek, Scandinavian) and the mycophagic (Italian, French, Polish, Russian) who search for them.

Because of widespread mycophobia in this country, choice, edible mushrooms often grow undisturbed in peoples' yards, and give mycophagists the opportunity to collect them right within the city.

MORE ARTISTS NEEDED AT THE 1982 EXHIBIT

Tatiana Roats, an artist and PSMS member since 1966, again is chairing the Arts and Crafts Committee for the Annual Exhibit. She is again appealing to our members (and their acquaintances) to contact her if they are interested in exhibiting and selling mushroom related art and craft items. Please write her at 12025 Venice Loop N.E., Bainbridge Island, Washington, 98110 or call her at 842 - 3750.

MYCOLOGICAL TRAVELING

In July Dave and Jennie Schmitt traveled to McCall, Idaho to collect and study fungi with Dr. Orson Miller. Jennie, again had to spend some days in the hospital this summer, but is ok. now.

Tatiana and George Roats are participating in the Baltic Mushroom Foray. They are tracking roots as well as fungi on this trip. We are looking forward to their report.

After participating in our early fall activities last year, Jim & Gail Halverson and Baby Miranda traveled to New Zealand (4 weeks), Australia (8 weeks), and Tahiti (2 weeks). They found large agaricus sp. and giant puffballs in sheep pastures. After it had rained hard for two weeks in Canberra they found many Lactarius deliciosus. They could not identify all species of mushrooms they found with Mushrooms of North America by O.K. Miller which they had taken along. After a fall drive across the U.S.A. they plan to be back on the West Coast by Christmas.

Joy & Roger Spurr really roughed it in Alaska for a week to photograph wildlife.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

The books listed here are either more technical than a regular identification book, or will go out of print as soon as the current stock is exhausted.

The following three books will go out of print, Order from Dover Publications, Inc., 11 East 2nd St. Mineola, N.Y. 11501. Add 75¢ for one book or \$1.25 for two or more books for shipping charges.

One Thousand American Fungi by Charles McIlvaine & Robert MacAdam, with nomenclature updated by Dr. R.L. Shaffer, 780 pp., Price \$9.95. Code #22782-0

The Romance of the Fungus World by F.W. Rolfe, facts and legends, 85 illustrations, 308 pp., Price \$5.00, Code #23105-4

Fungus-Growing Ants of North America by Wm.M. Wheeler, 96 illustrations, 150 pp., Price \$2.50 Code 21164-9.

700 Pilze in Farbfotos (in German) by Rose Marie Döhncke & Sabine Maria Döhncke, is a book of color photographs of European mushrooms, includes an index to Latin names; is a useful companion volume to Moser's book (listed below). 686 pp. \$41.95. If there is enough demand, Mad River Press plans to provide a translation of the German text in the form of a supplementary booklet costing a few dollars. If you order this book, please indicate it you would be interested in the translation. Mad River Press, Rt.2, Box 151-B, Eureka, CA 95501.

Champignons De Suisse, Tome 1 Les Ascomycetes, edited by J. Breitenbach and F. Kränzlin (in French) is the first in a series to be published on Swiss fungi. 390 species of ascomycetes; 313 pp. \$77.75. from Mad River Press.

Offerings in Lichenology from The Richmond Publishing Co.,

Ltd. Ask Mad River Press for the catalog.

The Boletes, Polypores, and Agarics by Meinhard Moser. An English Translation by G. Kibby and R. Rayner of Kleine Kryptogammenflora Band IIB/2, fifth edition, 1982 Die Roehrlinge und Blaetterpilze is being prepared, and Mad River Press is taking pre-publication orders for \$27.90 (will be \$39.95 after publication) through September 1, 1982. The English translation of this widely used book is a series of keys to 3150 species and also provides short descriptions, references to published illustrations, edibility, habitat, and season of appearance of European fungi.

Fungi in Folklore, Fact and Fiction, by W.P.K. Findlay. This unusual book brings a large amount of scattered information about beliefs and practices concerning fungi. \$9.25 from Mad River Press.

Mushrooms and other fungi of Great Britain and Europe by Roger Phillips, \$16.45 including shipping, is now available in paper back from Mad River Press. This book has beautiful color photographs and descriptions of 914 species of fungi.

MINIFARMS FOR MUSHROOM GROWERS

Far West Fungi, P.O. Box 763, Watsonville, CA 95077, is offering easy-to-grow kits which are ready to produce their first of several crops of savory mushrooms. They are very reliable and guaranteed to produce mushrooms if the instructions are followed. PSMS will receive a commission on each sale made to a PSMS member, if the member identifies him- or herself in the order sent to Rick Kerrigan, 3425 Winkle Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95065. Orders will normally be shipped 2 - 3 weeks after receipt, or can be shipped at any other time (such as Christmas week).

Presently the following kits are available:

Shiitake Minifarm \$11.95*
Oyster Mushroom Minifarm \$ 9.95*
Button Mushroom Minifarm \$ 9.95*

*When three or more MiniFarms are ordered there is a discount of \$1.00 per MiniFarm.

Far West Fungi also have available spawn of many kinds of easily cultivated edible mushrooms, mushroom growing supplies, and dried mushrooms. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for more information.

P.S. A few copies of their literature will be available at the September membership meeting. In his letter to PSMS Rick Kerrigan cites many sales to members of the San Francisco & Los Angeles Societies and the commissions to these clubs. From the literature received one might assume the buyers have more success with the Kits than with the ones bought in local stores.

OF THIS AND THAT

The reports from other Societies around the country tell of a very poor morel season last spring everywhere. The only success story came from the San Francisco Society's foray in a very large forest fire area in Southern Oregon.

Apparently mushroom hunting pays off, at least in theory. While mushroom hunting, two people in Windsor, Connecticut, found \$11,380 in salvageable bills that apparently was part of a \$66,573 payroll robbery committed nearly 25 years earlier. The cache was buried, and unfortunately the remainder of the bills was rotten. The police are retaining the money until they decide what to do with it.