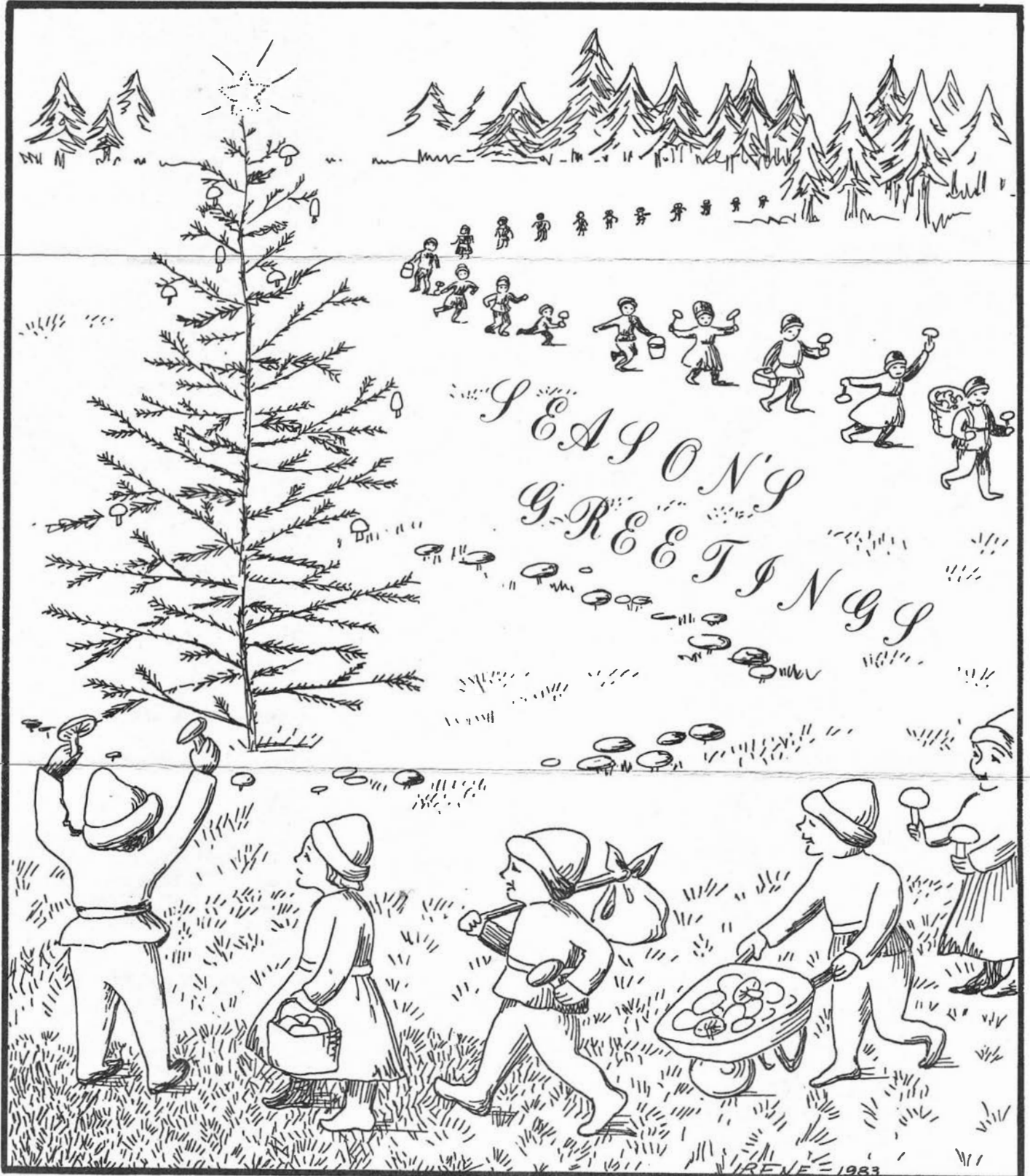


SPORE PRINTS

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

December 1983

Number 197





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Spore
Prints

is published monthly, except July and August, by the
PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2559 N.E. 96th, Seattle, Washington 98115
Direct all mail to this address

OFFICERS Milton Grout, President, 1984 (1)
John Kunz, Vice-President, 1985 (2)
Ferris Anderson, Treasurer, 1984 (1)
Betty Hamilton, Secretary, 1985 (1)

TRUSTEES Term expires March 1984: Kearney Kozai (1)
Marian Maxwell (1); Richard Pauli (1); Don
Schultz (2); Charles Volz (1).
Term expires March 1985: Ernie Boa (1); Judi
Boa (1); Hildegard Hendrickson (2); Monte
Hendrickson (2); Charlotte Turner-Zila (1).

ALTERNATES: Edward Bush; Sally Ann Hansen; Ron Skoor.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Carl Hermanson

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER: Dr. Joseph Ammirati

Calendar

Dec. 12 Monday, Beginners' Orientation Class 6:45 pm

Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

Dec. 19 Monday, Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

Dec. 23 Deadline for Spore Prints material. Send to
Editor, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115

Jan. 9 Monday, Beginners' Orientation Class 6:45 pm

Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

March 16 Friday, The 20th Annual Survivors Banquet

BEGINNERS CLASS CONTINUES IN DECEMBER M.M.H.

The Beginners Orientation Classes held at 6:45 on the day of the regular membership meeting (which starts at 8:00 pm) continue through June. The topics covered in these sessions include the activities and benefits of PSMS membership; what is a mushroom? how does it grow? cooking and preservation of wild mushrooms (in January); the basics of mushroom hunting (in February); in March there will be a learning field trip for the first spring mushrooms; April through June classes will be a series on mushroom identification. These classes are open to all members. There is no charge.

Monte and I wish all of YOU a
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

Membership Meeting

Monday, December 12, 1983, 8:00 pm in the auditorium of the MONROE CENTER, 1810 N.W. 65th Street, Seattle.

Program: It's a 10-year anniversary, and we suggest that it be continued: At the December Membership Meeting we encourage our members to share their favorite slides about mushrooms, and other topics dear to their hearts. At press time, about 100 slides have been promised by members; we could use a few more (so call Ed Cantelon 242-6115) to round out the program.

After the slide show, we sit down for refreshments, around tables with fresh white linens, and decorated in red and green. All the members bring their favorite cookies or other appropriate goodies, and Ella Cantelon and assistants brew the coffee and tea, and we have a party.

Joy Spurr initiated this format of our December membership meeting in 1974, and we have perpetuated it since.

Remember, don't forget the cookies and goodies, and come early.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

The first item of business was a discussion of the financial position of the Society, including a tentative report on the 1983 Show, which indicates that we came in in the black.

President Grout has followed through with the formalities for the new Articles of Incorporation and sent them to the Secretary of State. After paying a nominal annual fee, all items are taken care of.

There has been a change in the management of the Monroe Center (which resulted in the other half of the auditorium being rented out separately, even though PSMS had a written contract). President Grout will meet with the new management this week, confirm the dates through June 1984, extend the contract for the auditorium for our membership meetings and for the 1984 Annual Exhibit to be held Oct. 13 & 14, 1984.

The Banquet Chairmanship has not yet been formalized, so no Banquet report at this time.

The Board appointed the following members to the 1984 Election Committee: Margaret Holzbauer (Chair), Judi Boa and Monte Hendrickson.

Judi Boa asked for an updating of the names of the PSMS resource people listed in the Poison Pamphlet.

The North American Mycological Association (NAMA) has written to all mycological societies, encouraging these to become members. The annual fee is \$25 plus 10¢ per member over 250. President Grout is writing a letter to NAMA asking what benefits PSMS would derive from being an institutional member.

ELECTIONS FOR 1984 OFFICERS AND BOARD

According to the By-Laws, PSMS members must elect five members to the Board as well as the President and Treasurer. The election committee is chaired by Margaret Holzbauer (phone: 762-3053) and includes Judi Boa (725-1235) and Monte Hendrickson (523-2892).

The committee is asking for nominations. You may nominate yourself or someone else, but remember, you must have that someone else's permission.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO MILLERSYLVANIA
STATE PARK Lois Skoor

Fifty-two people attended the field trip to Millersylvania State Park on October 29 & 30, many of them being new members who were initiated into the fun and excitement of gathering wild mushrooms under the expert tutelage of Monte & Hildegard Hendrickson, who led them on a hunting expedition.

While the sun was not exactly shining, the rains held off until after a marvelous potluck which was attended by 40. Hosts for the outing were Ferris & Joyce Anderson.

Paul & Grace Jones will probably recall this trip with fond memories due to the kindness of a fellow mushroomer who aided them in getting car repairs.

The highlight of the trip was having a camera crew from KOMO there to tape the outing for their "UP FRONT" program. Many of our members reached immediate TV stardom as actors in this film. (The program was shown Sunday, Nov. 27th, and Monte taped it).

Most members found chanterelles in the park. Also found were blewits, Agaricus augustus, and honey mushrooms.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO OAKPATCH Betty Yuhl

The last foray of the fall was held at Lake Oakpatch in Mason County. Saturday was a lovely day to start, and the early birds stayed dry and got the mushrooms. This was a record year for mushrooms in the area. Commercial pickers harvested all fall, and there were still mushrooms left for us amateurs.

Matsutake, boletes, chanterelles were the kinds gathered for the market and cookpot. Hildegard, only a few minutes out the door, came back with a couple of handfuls of blewits.

Brian Luther did a super job of identification, from Albatrelus cristatus to Xeromphalina caudicinalis. He worked till 9:45 pm so no strangers would be left lying on the table. His enthusiasm over Astralus pteridis and other treasures made the finders feel good. Other unusual fungi collected were Limacella solidipes, Clitocybe deceptiva, Rhodocollybia oregonensis, Mycena delectabilis, Psilocybe pelliculosa, Craterellus cornucopioides, Ramaria acris, and R. apiculata.

Altogether, there were 87 different species of mushrooms found. 36 were designated edible, and 51 non-edible. 41 mushroom hunters (half of them wet and half dry), collected specimens. 23 members and guests enjoyed the potluck in the cozy and warm dining room (out of the steady rain). There was a great variety of food, and plenty of it.

At the end of the evening there was one beautiful leftover parka, just Andy's size. Unfortunately, its owner missed it. Parka (and car keys in the pocket) and Eric Hansen got back together again the next day. So a good time was had by all.

Thanks to Betty and Andy for again hosting this last outing of the fall season. They have done this for many years.)

A KEY COUNCIL OUTING IN OREGON, NOV. 12-13
as seen by fungophile Mel Kirkwood

I wonder how many fungophiles have observed the strange but common Being seen lurking around the perimeter of forays, field trips, or in dark corners, kicking idly at loose spores dropped by passing collectors?

This creature, the mycological equivalent of the well-known

"stage door Johnny", generally arrives in the area in the company of a Knowledgeable One, but almost immediately thereafter recedes into the Unknown.

An example of this being, (Ignoramus profanicus), clearly not a fungoid, but said to be humanoid, was recently seen swimming through the forest during the Key Council Foray at Camp Meriwether, Oregon, in the wake of one of the Knowledgeable Ones, and occasionally indicating something with the toe of its boot, and exclaiming: "Whazzat?". The Knowledgeable One was heard to mutter each time, "Good heavens! That's the fourteenth Russula cascadenis you've pointed out since we started ten minutes ago!" At the same moment, the Being kicked over a rare species not seen in the area since 1894 thinking, "Aw, heck! Probably nuthin!".

This rare species just kicked over, by the way, is a curious fungoid, indeed, for the mycelium grows .10013 mm above the ground while the fruiting body appears on the opposite side of the earth. The spores are said to be either left-handed, olive-cerise, brownish lavender-puce or totally absent thus causing considerable conjecture among mycologists. The length of the stem, taking into consideration the distance it must travel from its origin in the mycelium, is sufficient to excite comment. The cap is said to be either undulating or out of sorts while the tube-like structures alternating with gills found on the underside are said to reverse themselves rapidly during Northeast gales.

The fungoid is edible, tasting somewhat like raw mutton, combined with uncured concrete. One should be warned that if the fungoid is eaten before or after the consumer has been bitten by a rabbit, that person tends to suddenly abandon Chateau Safeway, red, and begins setting out half cases of Chateau Richois, blanc (\$32 a bottle) at forays and field trips. The Being is additionally difficult to deal with, when, detecting the sound of fluid being drawn from bottles, it begins to imagine it has a sense of humor. This, however, quickly diminishes, when an announcement is made that dinner will be late or that the meeting will be prolonged an hour. Being (I. profanicus) is further incensed when it realizes that (a) it has run out of racey reading material, or (b) other stimulating substances, and tends to froth slightly at the mouth and mutter incantations to assorted diets.

It goes without saying that there is a serious danger in allowing the presence of Being (I. profanicus), especially when children are present. Some Beings have even been known to refer to Russula as Stropharia with utter disregard for whose ears this blasphemy might fall upon. Without question this warrants immediate and careful consideration.



1984 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Please use the insert and return it with your check to renew your PSMS Membership. Family memberships are \$12; Single memberships \$8.50; and Student memberships \$6. Make your check payable to PSMS and send it to 2559 NE 96th, Seattle WA, 98115.

You may renew your membership in person at the December membership meeting. Please come early, so we all can enjoy the party.

NOTE TO NEW MEMBERS: All NEW members who have joined PSMS since last summer have their memberships paid up through December 1984, so the insert does not apply to you.

BOOK REVIEW

Brian Luther

A FIELD GUIDE TO MUSHROOMS AND THEIR RELATIVES

by Booth Courtney & Harold H. Burdsall, Jr. Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., 1982. 144 pp. 334 color photographs.

The "Introduction" includes the following subjects: (1) What are fungi? (2) When they are found. (3) Where they are found. (4) What they do. (5) Edibility. (6) Ten Commandments for Collecting. (7) Geographical coverage. (8) Names, and (9) Where to start. The next section (chapter) after the Introduction is on "How to Look at a Mushroom", containing basic information (with some illustrations) on the "Cap", growth habit, hymenophore configuration, stem & flesh characters and spore color. Here the authors have seemingly gone to great lengths to avoid using even the simplest mycological terminology. For example, rather than using the term 'resupinate', they use 'flattened' and rather than 'effused-reflexed', they use 'turned out'; and rather than 'adnate' they use 'attached', etc. After this is the "Key for Determining Genus" (p.19) which has 96 entries, and is not really a key, but rather a listing of characters that fit one to several genera, with accompanying drawings. These are broken down into the following categories: Gilled Mushrooms (with further subdivisions according to spore color), Tubed Fungi, Polypores, Thelephores, Jelly Fungi, Toothed Fungi, Club Fungi, Puffballs, Cup Fungi, Rusts and Fungi found on other Fungi. When you make your choice, then you are given page numbers to refer to, which leads you to the plates and descriptions. The color plates and descriptions are side by side and there are from 3 - 7 plates on each page. The quality of the photographs varies greatly, many having been taken in different kinds of light, often giving them a distracting hue.

Here are some of the problems I found with this book. Plate 48 (p.50) of *Hygrophorus conicus* was printed upside down, as was Plate 296 (p.118) of *Sarcoscypha occidentalis*. Plate 61 (p.54) is labeled as *Lactarius hygrophoroides*, but the fungus in this photo is definitely not *L. hygrophoroides*. *Collybia dryophila* (p.62) is labeled as "poisonous", which of course, is nonsense, since it is perfectly edible. Plate 133 (p.72) of *Phyllotopsis nidulans* is so out of focus that it is difficult to tell that it even has gills. Plate 134 (p.73) is not *Cortinarius albobolaceus*, as the authors claim. Some of the *Russulas* (plates 74 - 88, pp. 57 - 60) are of questionable identification. Plate 148 (p.76) is not *Pholiota erinaceella* as claimed, but rather *Crinipellis zonata* or a closely related species. The photo on the top right of page 120 (part of Plate 304) is very poor and certainly does not show any green-wood at all. The descriptions are so brief that they are almost cryptic and no information at all on microscopic characters is given; which is a definite inconvenience for the more advanced amateur. Also, no bibliography or references are provided. The authors' use of imaginary common names for many of the species seems to add further confusion to the already out-of-control common name problem.

The book is hardbound and even though the paper is good quality, the actual binding of the pages leaves something to be desired, especially, since it is a "Field Guide" and can expect to get harder use. Some of the species covered are not found in the Pacific Northwest, but even so the book is useful here, especially as an introductory book for beginners. It is available from bookstores for \$18.95.

OF THIS AND THAT

H.R.H.

Thanks to the generosity of Blanche Peters, your editor's family and guests enjoyed fresh blewits for Thanksgiving dinner.

Since we were one of the thousands of families who lost electricity while the turkey was roasting, we finished cooking the meal on the propane stove of PSMS (which is used for field trips) and which is stored at our house during this winter.

Two-time PSMS President (1972/1973) Howard Melsen retired earlier this month, after long-time service for the City of Seattle. We wish Howard a "happy retirement" and enough time to pursue his hobbies, including mushrooms.

Just before Thanksgiving, Ernie Boa had an operation on his right shoulder. He will have to hold his arm in a protective position for three months. Please, don't bump into him. We wish Ernie a complete recovery.

We heard from Jim, Gail, and Miranda Halverson recently. After extensive travels through all of the U.S., Australia & other places, they have settled in San Diego, but keep in touch with PSMS. They also sent a clipping from a San Diego newspaper, writing about edible mushrooms. Mentioned was a "lobster" mushroom which was not given a scientific name. Does anyone know this mushroom?

The beautiful cover for this issue of Spore Prints was done by Irene O'Connor, a PSMS member living in Amanda Park on the Olympic Peninsula. Thank you, Irene!

Beware: A man in England was fined \$200 by a court for driving while under the influence of mushrooms! Stopped on suspicion of drunken driving, he denied being drunk, but admitted that he had eaten a handful of raw hallucinogenic mushrooms, and found that he could not stop laughing. The court ruled he had not been in a fit state to drive. (from the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society.)

We also want to wish Jennie Schmitt (PSMS President 1978 & 1979) a complete recovery from the many health problems which have befallen her. She recently had to spend some time in the hospital again.

BOOKS MAKE EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

At the December membership meeting be sure to stop by the book sales tables. Judi has both "old" and "new" titles available for the mycophile.

The books are on sale at a discount from retail prices, so your Christmas budget goes a little further. You never can have too many identification guides, etc.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Donna Anderson: 1-683-8709; John Berti: 329-9380; Vince & Barbara Brown: 745-0732; Henry & Corinne Cato: 242-0443
Lucy Cristy & Thomas Lynch: 854-3808; Betty Davis: 782-6783; Allen & Susan Furford: 482-4898; Janis Gibbs: 325-4656; Gale Hill & Edward Jones: 362-5182; Rona Levy: 523-6016; John & Mary Naylor: 723-8986; Margaret Rogers (503) 239-4321; Shirley Rogers: 525-8388; Joseph & Helen Zabinsky 747-2827.

CHEESE STUFFED MUSHROOMS Kitsap P. Mycol. Soc.

Preheat oven to 375°. Wipe 20 large, fresh mushrooms; remove stems. Finely chop enough stems to make 1/2 cup. Brush caps inside and out with melted butter. Slice 1 package Liederkranz cheese into small mixer bowl; beat until smooth. Stir in the chopped stems, 2 tsp. each chopped parsley and minced onion, 2 tbsp. dry white wine (optional), salt and pepper to taste. Spoon into the mushroom caps. Place on baking sheet. Bake 15 minutes until lightly browned. Serve hot. (Gruyere cheese may be substituted).