PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Coleman Leuthy

Membership meetings: It was indeed a pleasure to see so many familiar faces January 26th at our first meeting in our new facility. If you didn't make the January meeting, come join us at one of the spring ones. Remember, membership meetings will be on the fourth Tuesday in February, April, and May, returning to the fourth Monday in June.

Refreshments: A hip, hip, hooray! to Denis Benjamin for agreeing to manage the refreshments. The key word here is "manage." He can't do it all by himself. Ten committees of eight to ten people each, one committee for each month, would take care of refreshments for the next year, while ensuring that each person only had to bring something once.

Library hours: Kudos, too, to PSMS Librarian Ed Bush, who has the PSMS library again whipped into shape and will be holding library hours from 6:30-9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. This is in addition to the library hours that I will be holding on Mondays from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Moving: Many thanks to all of you who turned out so generously to help with the move from the Monroe Center to the Center for Urban Horticulture.

Fund Drive: A generous and gratifying response to the kickoff of our fund-raising drive at the January meeting resulted in donations of about $600. I encourage people to help us reach our goal this first year. Fill our horn of plenty 'til it doth run over!

PLEDGE FUND COMMITTEE

Frank Occhiuto

At our last meeting, I briefly outlined the objectives of the pledge fund committee which I chair -- namely, to raise $25,000 -- and discussed possible fund-raising activities. To assist this effort, I pledged a $100 contribution to the fund for each home listing referral I received from PSMS members that culminates in a sale or for each purchase of a home involving members or referrals by a member. (I am associated with Richard James Realtors.) A somewhat similar pledge was made by another of our members, David Hawkinson, who pledged 10% of his commission for similar referrals. David is associated with Federal Properties. David and I can be reached at the following numbers:

Frank Occhiuto  David Hawkinson
Office  771-6444  Office  632-8833
Home  487-1072   Home  632-1308
Pager  993-1314  (dial your number when you hear a beep)

I am asking for volunteers to serve on the committee. I would also like to hear from you regarding fund-raising ideas you may have.

THE MOVE

Dick Sieger

Saturday, January 24th, was moving day for PSMS. By 10:00 a.m., the Monroe Center was filled with efficient, energetic people who quickly emptied the old storeroom into pickups, vans, cars, and trailers. Lead by George Rafanelli with an enormous load in his truck, the caravan headed across town to our shiny new home at the Center for Urban Horticulture.

Upstairs, Coleman Leuthy supervised the move into the office, while downstairs Dennis Bowman showed us how to store 600 cubic feet of equipment in 200 cubic feet of space: He uses a 16-inch foot and a space warp. Ed Bush unpacked the library while Charlotte Turner-Zila and Margaret Dilly filed hundreds of slides and Judi and Ernie Boa organized the books and T-shirts. Some movers were soaked in a violent rain storm, but Millie Kleinman warmed up everyone with a delicious lunch of meat balls and rice.

Some other workers were Andy Green (who inspired the heavy lifters), Bill Guinn, Gerry Barta, Gilbert Austin, Jack Herndon, Dick Sieger, Bob Hamilton, Bill Zila, Edith Godar, Marie Guillias, Marian Harris, Sally Hansen, Margaret Holzbauer, and Monte Hendrickson. Wow, what a party!

BOARD NEWS

Betty Hamilton

Andy Green has indicated he will continue as field trip chairman for this coming year. Frank Occhiuto will take charge of raising the $25,000 for the Center for Urban Horticulture. Millie Kleinman will chair the mailing committee; call her at 323-2903 and volunteer your help.

The Board voted to co-sponsor a foray with the Lewis County Mushroom Society at the Cispus Environmental Center near Randle on October 3-5. The Board also voted to donate $100 to the memorial for Dr. Alexander Smith, who passed away recently.

This year the Survivors' Banquet will feature a twelve-course feast of mushroom dishes prepared especially for us by Wang's Garden Restaurant in Bellevue. The banquet will follow a no-host social hour, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 15th.

Banquet tickets will be available at the February meeting. The price is $15.00 per person. With 50% of the available seating reserved at this time, members are reminded reservations for themselves and their guests can be made by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Denny Bowman, 520 NE 83rd, Seattle, WA 98115.

I will also be coordinating an effort this year for people to buy tickets for those who cannot afford them.
Membership Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 1987, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle.

Program: Our speaker for February will be Harvey Manning, widely acclaimed Seattle author, environmentalist, and mountaineer. The focus of Mr. Manning's presentation will be beach and sand spit deterioration resulting from bulkheads and other structures, as noted between Seattle and Bellingham. Manning's latest book, Walking the Beach to Bellingham, was published by Madrona Press in 1986. Copies will be available for purchase and autographing. Manning's other published titles include Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills; Backpacking: One Step at a Time; The Wild Cascades, and four volumes of Footsteps: Walks and Hikes Around Puget Sound -- the last titles being published under the Mountaineers imprint. Manning is a life-long Seattle resident who now lives on Cougar Mountain near Issaquah.

EDUCATION

Identification: The mini-display held after the general membership meeting will continue throughout the spring. Nettie Laycock is helping out as identifier while Brian Luther is away.

The PSMS office will be open for mushroom identification on Monday afternoons from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Beginners' Class: An abbreviated six-week course on mushroom identification will be taught by Coleman Leuthy at the Center for Urban Horticulture on the following Tuesdays: April 7, 14, 21, May 5, 12, 19. The fee is $16. Mail checks, made out to PSMS, to our new address in time to reach us by March 27. After that date, nonmembers will also be admitted.

PERSONALS

Charlotte Turner-Zila will have surgery on February 17th. After a brief stay in the hospital, Charlotte will be recovering at home for six to eight weeks and would like to hear from you during her convalescence.

COURSES, FORAYS, BOOKS

Mycology Course: Dr. Orson K. Miller, Jr., will conduct an eight-week mycology course for graduate credit at Flathead Lake, Montana, starting June 21st. Dr. Miller will also have space for students who wish to study fungi more informally. If interested, contact Dr. Jack Stanford, Director, University of Montana Biological Station, Yellow Bay, Bigfork, MT 59911 - (406) 982-3301.

NAMA Foray: The 1987 NAMA Foray will held at the Gulfport Campus of the University of Southern Mississippi starting July 16th. NAMA members only.

Book: The second edition has been published of Wild and Exotic Mushroom Cultivation in North America: A Growers' and Gourmets' Guide to the New Edible Species (59 pp.) by Geraldine C. Kaye. This is essentially a list of growers, suppliers, researchers, book sellers, organizations, businesses, etc. It can be ordered for $6.75 postpaid from the Farlow Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.
At 9:30 a.m., Monte will hold a lecture on how to recognize the cottonwood trees under which the early morels (*Verpa bohemica*) grow and how to become familiar with the habitat of these, the earliest edible mushrooms of the year. After the lecture, we will go out and try and find them. If the weather continues as mild as it is when this article was written, there is no doubt that they will fruit on time. (We have always found some mushrooms on this trip; however, the quantity depends on the season.)

Dress according to the weather and bring your lunch. Sturdy, water-proof footwear, a basket, and a knife should be part of your equipment. PSMS will provide coffee and cookies. There will be no potluck dinner.

April through June, we will have field trips about every other weekend. A schedule will appear in the March *Spore Prints*.

**LEARNING FIELD TRIP Monte & Hildegard Hendrickson**

Again this year, we will hold the first outing of the new season at MacDonald Park on the Tolt River in Carnation. The date is Saturday, March 21st. As always, this is designated as a learning field trip, and will be held rain or shine, mushrooms or not.

For Trustee

**Patrice Gales Benson**

I joined PSMS at the '76 annual exhibit and have since served as publicity chairperson ('84) and cooking chairperson (the "Great Chefs" of '86). I have an unrelenting interest in fungi hunting, identification and culinary enjoyment. Acting as a trustee would enable me to promote effectively the culinary, educational, and social aspects of the society.

**Dennis Bowman**

For Trustee

As chairman for the annual exhibit these last four years I've attended board meetings as a visitor, an alternate, and currently as a trustee. I've enjoyed working toward enhancing our members' enjoyment of mushroom hunting, eating, and studying, as well as toward protective legislation ensuring future enjoyment. Remember, buy your banquet tickets now!

**Sheila Botelho**

For Vice President

As an assistant supervisor in a business office, most of my time is spent inside, so over the many years that I have been a member of PSMS, I have relished the opportunity to be in the woods. I am an active member in our church, and want to be more active with PSMS by being your secretary.

**Dick Sieger**


**Lois Skoor**

For Secretary

Needed: 4 folding chairs, 2 steno chairs, and 1 or 2 sturdy folding card tables for the library. Lawyer to help clarify possible liabilities related to PSMS activities. Telephone Coleman at 322-2554.

**CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICERS FOR PSMS 1987**

Election Information: Each family membership is entitled to two votes; each individual membership is entitled to one vote (PSMS Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3).


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The following candidates are up for election to PSMS offices in 1987. This year we are voting for a vice-president, secretary, and five trustees. Please read the following profiles carefully and mark your choices on the enclosed ballots. Don't forget to return your ballot in the self-addressed envelope.

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**Patrice Gales Benson**


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Why I would like to be on the PSMS Board: There is rarely a weekend during the fall or spring when my wife and I are not hunting mushrooms. Now that I am retired and not traveling, I wish to contribute my services to the society. PSMS has introduced me to our beautiful forests. It has done so much for me. Now it is my turn.

For Trustee
Ralph Burbridge

I would like to be a board member of PSMS because of my interest in people as well as in mycology. I am a past member of the board of the Moclips Cetological Society and I feel that this experience, my interest, and my scientific background (M.S., Fisheries, UW) prepare me to do a good job for PSMS.

For Trustee
Camille Anne Gobel Diaz

Among my most satisfying pleasures is partaking of the enchanting recreational opportunities of the Northwest - and that includes the pursuit of mycology and helping to maintain our natural heritage for present enjoyment and to preserve it for generations to come. The company and friendship of members of PSMS are meaningful and rewarding.

For Trustee
Marian Harris

My name is James Herndon, my friends call me Jack. I was born in 1951 and I grew up in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. I have a BS degree in Chemistry from the University of Arkansas and work as a chemist doing environmental analysis for a private laboratory. I joined PSMS after the '85 fall show and helped with the freeze dry section at the '86 exhibit.

For Trustee
James Herndon

For Trustee
Caroline Irvin

This year will be one of the most important in the life of PSMS. Decisions will be made concerning the future home of the Society, location of the annual exhibit, and other issues surrounding relocation. As an alternate trustee, I have gained an understanding of the problems the Board will have to solve.

For Trustee
Ludmilla H. Kleinman

As a member of PSMS I've grown in my understanding and enjoyment of mushrooms. My experience serving on the board of a student housing cooperative, my experience as an engineer, and my work with Lori on the conservation committee would combine to make me an effective and enthusiastic Board member.

For Trustee
Walter Knox

I joined PSMS last September to learn about edible mushrooms and have attended all PSMS functions since then. To learn the most I can, I want to get more involved in PSMS activities. I have the desire and time to help plan and organize PSMS events by serving on the Board.

For Trustee
Nick Popoff

As a Pacific Northwest native, I began picking mushrooms with my dad around Marysville in the 1960's. Since joining PSMS in 1984, I've enjoyed heading the greeters' committee for the past two exhibits and acting as a "floating helper" for many other exhibit committees. As trustee I would guide my energies in a direction to forward the Society's goals in our community.

For Trustee
Daniel Schwenk
The battle to regulate commercial mushroom harvest is in full swing. It's a tough uphill struggle and needs everyone's help. As most of you know there are two bills before the legislature this session, with the possibility of another soon. Each was set in place as a means of properly managing a resource that has become a popular marketable item. Present belief is that there are enough harvestable mushrooms in the Northwest to satisfy a domestic market in this country, but not the foreign brine market.

Coast Mt. Resources (Madame Mushroom) has hired a professional lobbyist to kill any legislation. He is in Olympia every day trying to convince anyone who will listen that this valuable new industry with mushrooms is just what the State needs, and restrictions of any kind could put them out of business.

So we need to act as the legislature only meets until early April. Many of you have already phoned or written letters to your legislators urging them to vote for both bills. The only way these bills will pass is with your persistence. Big thanks those who have already acted, keep it up it's the squeaky wheel that gets the oil.

SENATE BILL No. 5137 - sponsored by Brad Owen & Marcus Gaspar. It makes it unlawful to commercially harvest mushrooms on Department of Natural Resource Lands without a permit specifying site and quantity. (These are state trust lands belonging to all of us.)

2) Requires monetary compensation per pound based on fair market value.

3) Allows free personal use of mushrooms.

4) DNR must set up a system for licensing and documenting information as to species, site, quantity of mushrooms harvested commercially.

5) They must commence a scientific study of ecological effects of mushroom harvest and report their findings back to the state.

This bill was heard before the Senate Natural Resources Committee at an open hearing in Olympia on Feb. 4. Good representation of hobbyists but strong opposition by commercial interest including the DNR. They came in with amendments relieving them from charging for the resource if they could not find it cost effective. They showed no figures as to market value but rather base their findings on the price the picker gets. We definitely do not want the picker to be targeted. Senator Patterson from the 9th district seemed very opposed. Those in his district need to convince him differently. Pasco area.

After the hearing some minor revisions were made that clarified the bill better, and it will be presented again in executive committee. We feel this is progress, but still needs a push.

HOUSE BILL No. 275 - With seven sponsors, Belcher (prime), Winsley, Nelson, Cole, Sayan, Meyers & Unsoeld. This bill is a revision of last year's attempt to be added to the Specialized Forest Product Act. This Act allows limited harvesting of forest products on all lands without a permit. Anything over the prescribed amounts would need a permit issued by the county sheriff and validated by the property owner. This protects the landowner. The revisions we have ask for are increased amounts of mushrooms for personal use. We have ask for limits of 10 lbs. of a single species with a aggregate of 30 lbs. plus one. (for that big one) Points of this bill.

1) Protects the landowner from commercial ventures without proper compensation.

2) It insures the landowner HE has the right to manage his lands and controlled harvest could be beneficial.

3) Allow personal use by hobbyists.

Other things you might remember when contacting your legislators.

This natural resource can not be produced outside its natural state as can trees, brush, blueberries etc. Many edible wild mushrooms have mychorrizal relationships with trees and over-harvest could be disastrous. We need controlled harvest if we want future generations to enjoy the natural resource.

When contacting your legislator be courteous and use proper respect. Example: Rep. Sutherland or Senator Owen.

Some of the things you might say: I reside in your district and I am concerned about----- or perhaps, I am a constituent of yours and I would urge you to vote in favor of-----

It is not necessary, but sometimes helpful if you point out some of the reasons you favor the bill.

Keep your remarks brief as they have limited time to read all the correspondence the receive.

Contact the chairman & co-chair of the committee as well as your own representatives. They get together and discuss bills. We need all the exposure we can get. So lets all get with it and enjoy our future mushrooming. Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions. Thank you again for your contribution to this effort.