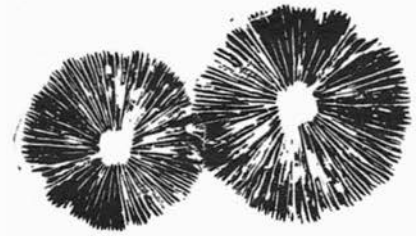


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 265

October 1990



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kern Hendricks

The Annual Exhibit is upon us. Your committee chairs, Lynn Phillips and Bill Bridges, have done an excellent job of organizing and staffing this event. I've got word from the forests that the mushrooms will cooperate. Now it is up to the rest of us to help them pull it off.

When you get that call from an Exhibit committee asking you to help out, remember that little three letter word, Yes!



If I don't do it, who will?
If I don't do it now, when will I?
If I do it only for me, who am I?

ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Lynn Phillips

The 27th Annual Exhibit is fast approaching, and Bill Bridges and I have things under control, or at least that's what we keep telling everyone! We and the committee heads have been making lots of plans, but we need all of you to help. It takes many man- and woman-hours to have a smooth and successful show, so don't wait to be called or for someone else to do it. Call the committee of your choice and sign up right now. If you don't know where to help, call Bill Bridges or me. We'll find something interesting for you to do.

And remember, we need a lot of help even before the exhibit opens: Mushroom and moss collection on Thursday and Friday, construction and setup on Friday and Saturday morning, various jobs related to mushrooms coming in Friday evening, and tray arrangement and greenery decoration Saturday morning. Don't forget the "deconstruction" and cleanup after it's all over Sunday. Whew! If it sounds like a lot of work, it really isn't, IF there are a lot of people to help. It's great fun, too, but don't take my word for it--get involved and find out for yourself.

We have two new committee chairmen to introduce and thank:

Fungi in Foodstuff	Carol Smith	784-7699
Microscope	Mike Gadau	788-9229

If you have no idea what Fungi in Foodstuff is, I don't think Carol did either a few weeks ago, but she would be happy to brief you if you will volunteer to help her. And if you do have any expertise, she would also be overjoyed to hear from you. Mike Gadau will have the microscope display, and he would really like some input and help from those of you experienced in mushroom microscopy. We thank both of you and will try to get you the support you need.

I have one last request. We would like to keep the office open during the exhibit to show off our books and other resources and let people know where our home base is. We need some people willing to sit there and keep an eye on things and chat. If that appeals to you, please give me a call.

Do you all have your posters distributed by now? They should be up now or very soon. If you didn't get any or need more, call today. Either Bill Bridges or I will get some to you. Don't delay. This is our best advertising method. And, hey, thanks for that and all your help.

So, come to the exhibit. Bring all your friends. Bring a potluck dish for the kitchen and snacks for Friday night if you are working then. And help, help, HELP!!

A SPECIAL EVENING WITH DAVID ARORA D. Bowman



Enjoy a special evening with David Arora on Wednesday, October 24th, as he tells the story of a few of his mushroom adventures. A look at the acknowledgement in the opening pages of his latest edition of *Mushrooms Demystified* may give us a clue to what David has in mind. He dedicates his book, with love, to his mother and father, whose admonitions to him as a teen-ager to stay away from mushrooms inspired him to get closer. If you have never heard David speak, come and join those of us who have.

The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. for this special meeting. The location is the same as usual (UW Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle), and we extend an invitation to the many other mushroom societies in the Seattle area to join us.

PSMS members whose last names begin with I, J, K, L, or M, are asked to donate a plate of refreshments.

TRUFFLES AROUND THE WORLD James M. Trappe

NATS Current News

Although southern Europe has been the center of commerce in truffles for two millennia, hypogeous fungi have a long history of use in other cultures. The desert truffles of West Asia and North Africa have been prized by nomads and settled peoples alike from prehistoric times. *Terfezia* and *Tirmania* spp. fruit prolifically in these areas in the occasional years of proper weather conditions. In Kuwait, a good truffle year will witness truckloads of truffles arriving in the city from surrounding deserts. Most likely the Egyptian pharaohs served desert truffles at their royal banquets. Bedouins to this day use truffles for food, as medication for inflamed eyes (a common malady in the desert), and, in the case of *Phaeangium lefebvrei*, as a bait for live-trapping of birds. Bushmen of the Kalahari desert of southern Africa have collected *Terfezia pfeilii* as food from the mists of time.

Use of truffles in Asia has been little documented so far. Traditional Chinese medicine seems not to include hypogeous fungi, although they abound in parts of China.

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Spore Prints

is published monthly, September through June, by the
PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Center for Urban Horticulture, Mail Stop GF-15,
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Calendar

Oct. 6	Squire Creek field trip
Oct. 9	Membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Oct. 13	Dalles Forest Camp field trip
Oct. 15	Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Oct. 19	<i>Spore Prints</i> deadline (early)
Oct. 20	Annual Exhibit, 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., CUH
Oct. 21	Annual Exhibit, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., CUH
Oct. 24	David Arora special meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Oct. 27	Masonic Park field trip
Oct. 31	Woodinville field trip (Wednesday)
Nov. 3	Twanoh State Park field trip
Nov. 10	Discovery Park field trip

MEMORIES OF PRAGUE—BUT NO CHANTERELLES

This summer, PSMS member Vera Elias had a "sentimental journey" to her native Prague. This was her first visit in over 40 years. She saw friends and relatives and tells us that while the old landmarks are still there, the rows and rows of apartment buildings are shabby and dilapidated. The people are very positive in their outlook, yet realistic. She remembers looking for mushrooms as a child, when everyone was interested in *Baletus edulis* only and left the forest floor blooming with yellow chanterelles. A mushroom field guide, written in Czech, giving Latin names, nicely illustrated, is her souvenir. Welcome back.



Transplant Wonder Drug: A miraculous new antirejection drug has been derived from a fungus found in soil samples in Japan. The new drug, called FK-506, is 50 to 100 times more powerful than cyclosporine, the most commonly used antirejection drug.

Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 1990, 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle

Cooking With Nuts: This is a fun-filled evening as the Society readies itself for the Annual Exhibit. This is especially true this year, because we are going to watch three chefs--Kathy Casey, Michael Blackburn, and Patrice Benson (three nuts)--cook with nuts. And we are going to watch Lynn Phillips and Bill Bridges (two nuts) go nuts.



Kathy Casey is known as the chef who brought P.N.W. cooking to national attention; Roger Blackburn is the chef known as Mr. Mushroom; and Patrice Benson is the chef who connects mushrooms with much of Seattle's markets and restaurants. Lynn Phillips is the PSMS member who has had the greatest difficulty in saying "no" (all the way to exhibit chair), and the exhibit co-chair, Bill Bridges, thought he was just signing a petition when Lynn asked him for a signature a few months ago.



The three nuts are going to cook (with nuts) while the two nuts (who by now have already gone nuts) help the rest of us to go nuts. This is the evening of maximum involvement where everybody throws in their support by signing up for helping with the Annual Exhibit. So mark your calendars in red. You won't want to be the one member who misses the fun, the prizes, and the chance to enjoy being nuts. Come a few minutes early and enjoy some of the warm-up fun.



Missionary: Coleman Leuthy spoke to the Vancouver Mycological Society about fall mushrooms and *Amanita*.

Foray: David Arora will be the featured authority at the Oregon Mycological Society's fall foray near Sisters, Oregon. PSMS members may attend. Come the evening of October 26th or the afternoon of the 27th and stay until the 28th. The cost is from \$16.00 to \$43.00. Call Dick Sieger in Seattle (362-6860) for details.

CULTIVATION GROUP

Lynn Phillips



The cultivation group is alive and well, unlike some of my cultures, and looking forward to a season of new projects and changes. One big change, of course, is that of chairman. Walter Knox has generously offered to take over. We'll give him a few months to put together a pasteurizer and other equipment and break the news to Lori before we descend on his house for a meeting.

We will all be helping at the cultivation table during the exhibit in lieu of an October meeting. If you haven't signed up yet, call me. Paul Stamets of Fungi Perfecti will have the space next to us, and he has a lot of exciting new cultures. You'll want to come and see what interesting directions he's been taking this past year. He has invited us down to his facility in November for a field trip. The date and details will appear in next month's *Spore Prints*.

For all of you who took home bags of *Pleurotus* at the last meeting, I hope they are all fruiting beautifully by exhibit time. Don't forget to bring them. See you there!

MEET THE IDENTIFIERS

Inga Wilcox

Ever wonder who the persons are at the identification table and how come they are so knowledgeable? I thought they deserved a little recognition, so I will be introducing them to you over the next few months.

To begin, meet Brian Luther, Identification Chairman. Brian has been a member since 1972. He studied under Dr. Daniel Stuntz, graduating with a B.S. in Botany from the University of Washington. While doing graduate work at the University of Tennessee, he studied with Dr. Hesler, a pioneer in North American Mycology. As a teaching assistant, Brian taught Botany, Mycology, and Biology courses. He has authored a chapter on polyporioid fungi and written about *Crepidotus cinnabarinus*.



Brian's special interests are collecting and studying international postage stamps and antique postcards. His family consists of wife Pam, son Zachary, 9 years, and daughter Arnica, 11 months. Zach is learning from his father. His Latin vocabulary for fungi is something.

Keep up the good work, Brian!

INTO THE WOODS WE GO...

Inga Wilcox



It is fall (according to the calendar), and the mushrooms are here. By the time you read this, you probably will have attended two forays or maybe have ventured into the woods on your own. You will have seen the great variety of fungi that members brought to the last meeting, and you are excited to start the fall season.

We have new members signing up and expect many more at the Annual Exhibit. Therefore, I would like to repeat a few words about the field trips. This year we have made an effort to have two foray leaders at each field trip. One will take a group of newcomers out about 9:00 a.m. and the other at 10:00 a.m. Foray leaders will explain what kind of gathering utensils to use and how to harvest fungi, answer your questions, and take you to a starting place for gathering. (No, they will NOT take you to their top-secret hunting places.) On signing in, you may pick up a photocopied map of the area to help you with back roads.

As you know, we also have identifiers at each foray who will tell you what you found and add your unusual finds to the table for all of us to see and to study.

At 4:00 p.m. we will have our potluck dinner. You need to bring your own eating utensils and beverage and a dish to contribute to the table. This can be an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert. We always have delectable dishes and enjoy sharing mushroom information with old and new friends.

Last, remember that the general deer-hunting season starts the middle of October. The fashionable mushroom-hunting colors are international orange, fluorescent pink, and canary yellow.



FALL FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Inga Wilcox

October 13

① The Dalles Forest Camp
(elev. 2200 ft, 70 miles SE of Seattle)

From Enumclaw, SE of Seattle, continue east and south on State Highway 410 about 25 miles and turn right into the camp. Day use only, since the camp is officially closed (we have permission). Please bring water.

October 27

② Masonic Park
(elev. 400 ft, 45 miles NE of Seattle)

From Snohomish take State Highway 9 north to State Highway 92. Follow that east through Granite Falls and turn left into the park, about 4 miles east. This is a private park, and we have been invited. This foray is for PSMS members only. They charge the following fees: day use, \$1.00 per person per day; campers, \$3.00 per person per night. The park opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 6:00 p.m.

October 31 (Wednesday) ③ Special Field Trip, Woodinville

PSMS member Terry Kelly has invited us to hunt on his property at 14020 184th NE in Woodinville. From Seattle, cross the Evergreen Point Bridge and stay on Highway 520 into Redmond; then hook onto Avondale Road going north. At 137th, turn left and look for the first dirt road on your right. This will be 184th (no sign). Turn onto 184th and at the sign for "Terry Kelly" turn into the property. The house sits well back from 184th and has a red tile roof with yellow stucco exterior. You may also reach the property by going north on Highway 405 to Totem Lake and driving east on 124th to Avondale. We will meet there at 10:00 a.m. and try our luck. Bring a sack lunch if you wish.

November 3

④ Twanoh State Park
(elev. low, 20 SW of Seattle by ferry)

Take the downtown Seattle-Bremerton ferry. From Bremerton, drive south on State Highway 304 to Highway 3. Continue south on Highway 3 past Belfair, then bear left onto Highway 106 and continue another 7 miles to the park. Alternate routes involve driving south on I-5 to Tacoma and crossing the Narrows Bridge or driving farther south through Olympia and Shelton. This will add 60/80 miles to the drive. Twanoh State Park is located on the south side of Hood Canal between Belfair and Union. An invitation is extended to Mycological Societies in the area to join us.

November 10

⑤ Discovery Park, Seattle

Details in the next newsletter.

Truffles, cont. from p. 1

Tuber indicum was sold in northern Indian markets around the turn of the century. Nepalese have an oral tradition of seeking and eating hypogeous fungi. Some unidentified hypogeous fungi are reported to be sold in markets in Burma. A region of the west coast of Honshu Island, Japan, is famed for its specialty soup of *Rhizopogon* sp.

The Australian Aborigines harvest desert truffles. New Zealand Maoris also esteem certain hypogeous species.

Both North and South America abound in hypogeous fungi, but the only record of their use so far is by Indians in Mexico. One tribe was observed in the last century to harvest a species of *Melanogaster* as food, and recent data indicate *Rhizopogon* spp. are used by contemporary rural people. *Elaphomyces granulatus* and its associated parasites, *Cordyceps* spp., are used in native religious rites. Ethnobotanical studies in Oregon indicate that the native Americans must have known about truffles, but any uses appear to be lost both from the present culture and from history. Today, however, the "Oregon white truffle" (*Tuber gibbosum*) is being collected in the wild for marketing as a gourmet food, and other hypogeous fungi are collected for culinary use by members of the North American Truffling Society.

Truffle orchards of seedlings inoculated with *Tuber melanosporum* have been established in at least five American states and in New Zealand.

Oops! Larousse, the venerable French publishing house, has suspended sales of the 1991 edition of its famous *Petit Larousse* dictionary because some highly poisonous wild mushrooms are identified as harmless. The color illustration on page 203 should have a red dot next to *Amanita phalloides*, *Amanita virosa*, and *Corinarius orellanus*, indicating they are deadly. Instead, there is a black dot, indicating they are harmless.

BOOK CORNER

Elizabeth Hendricks

Four new books are available:

A Passion for Mushrooms by Antonio Carluccio (\$17.50), a beautifully designed book with luscious photographs, tempting recipes, and a small field guide

Ancient Forests of the Pacific Northwest by the Wilderness Society (\$17.50), for those interested in learning more about our old growth forests

Morel Mushroom (\$11.25), a photographic and verbal celebration of morels by the same zany folks who brought you *Roon*

Trees of Seattle (\$14.75), a tome of all the trees growing locally.

(The above prices include member discounts.)

More volunteers are needed for book sales at the Exhibit. Call 284-2164.



BOARD NEWS

Agnes Sieger

Dennis Benjamin plans four or five introductory classes after the show, probably starting the first Wednesday in November, with mushroom i.d. classes in the spring. Inga Wilcox reports she has foray leaders for all field trips but is still missing some hosts. Walter Knox has agreed to assume chairmanship of the Cultivation Group. PSMS will commission some mushroom sweatshirts for sale at the October meeting, probably for \$19.95. If they go well, we will order more for the show.

Hendricks' Phone: Kern & Elizabeth's no. is 284-2164, NOT 284-2168 as given in the front of the 1990 roster. (The alphabetical listing is correct.)

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Puget Sound Mycological Society
Center for Urban Horticulture
GF-15, University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195

Special meeting: David Arora
CUH, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 24