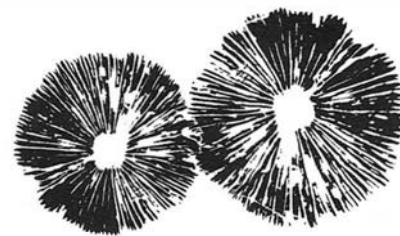


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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1992 ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Agnes Sieger

The 1992 annual exhibit was a huge success, both financially and artistically. The crowds were large and in a spending mood, the PSMS volunteers many and enthusiastic—and busy. The cooks used every single mushroom set aside for cooking. We sold out of shirts, many books, posters, and even posters left over from previous years.

Offering VISA/MasterCards at the annual exhibit seemed to increase the average amount spent on individual sales. We grossed about \$6500 in books/T-shirts/posters, \$5700 in ticket sales (compared with \$2100 last year), and \$2000 in memberships. Not all the exhibit bills are in yet, but we should do much better than last year, when the exhibit about broke even. Exhibit Chair Bruce DeLoria plans to debrief all the exhibit committees and set up a database with an exhibit time line, job descriptions, material and space requirements, and computer drawings of the physical setup.



OREGONIANS SUE TO BLOCK TIMBER SALES

[*Mush Rumors*, Oregon Myco. Soc., September 1992]

The Oregon Natural Resources Council and the Oregon Mycological Society have appealed a 17 million board-foot timber sale in the Deschutes National Forest, claiming that the continued economic loss of prime mushroom habitat due to intensive logging may exceed the economic value of the lodgepole pine to be cut.

The two groups have challenged the proposed Oliver Timber Sale on the Crescent Ranger District in Klamath County. The sale covers portions of a 15,660 acre planning area located north of the junction of Hwy 58 (the Willamette Hwy) and Hwy 97.

This particular area, along with other pine forest above 14,500 ft elevation immediately south on the adjacent Winema National Forest, is the primary habitat for the

increasingly valuable matsutake mushroom. The appellant groups maintain that the mushroom species will not thrive once its essential forest environment is logged.

Forest Service officials said that the export value of matsutake mushrooms collected from this part of the National Forest in 1989 was \$15 million. Last fall, commercial pickers were paid over \$40 a pound for their mushrooms.

"Because of fire suppression and the resulting pine bark beetle infestation, much of the timber scheduled for cutting has little value other than for chips or firewood. The Forest Service needs to evaluate whether the harvest of mushrooms will produce greater revenue over the long term than the harvest of these trees. When you are talking about lodgepole pine, it is clear that the mushrooms are often more valuable," said Wendell Wood, Conservation Coordinator for the Council.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Guess What?

For some reason, probably because of the arts and crafts section of the annual exhibit, PSMS has been invited to participate in the King County Arts Commission initiative entitled "Best of Show." The emphasis is on "fine crafts" and includes everything from egg painting to stone sculpting.

Basically, PSMS participation involves submitting "a strong example" of our members' works to the King County Arts Commission, who will exhibit it in their gallery from 7 January - 1 February 1993. The artwork will be judged the last week of the exhibition, and the Arts Commission will purchase the winners. Purchase inquiries from the public while the artwork is on exhibit will be referred back to the participating organization after jurying has taken place.

So Let's Have An Art Show!

What better excuse to hold an art show! And what better time than the Christmas slide show/cookie bash?

The only time we see the works of PSMS artists is at the annual exhibit—and that involves only a few people. We have lots of artists in PSMS. Some of them are doing pretty inventive and intriguing stuff.

The work to be exhibited doesn't have to be mushroom related, although it would be nice. We know PSMS has people weaving with mushroom-dyed wool, painting with *Coprinus* ink, carving pictures into (and items out of) conks, and portraying mushrooms in ceramics. But what else is there?

Pat could bring in his styrofoam. Marilyn could hang up some posters. The opportunities may not be endless, but they could be exciting.

If you'd like to participate, or have any ideas about how to go about it, call Joanne Young at 633-0752. Let's hear from the artists!

Spore Prints

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CALENDAR

Nov. 8 Cultivation meeting, 1:00 p.m.
Nov. 10 Membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Nov. 16 Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Barlow Pass collecting (if it hasn't frozen)
Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall

Nov. 20 *Spore Prints* deadline
Nov. 22 Barlow Pass collecting (if it hasn't frozen)
Nov. 23 Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall
Nov. 30 Barlow Pass collecting (if it hasn't frozen)
Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall

Dec. 6 Barlow Pass collecting (if it hasn't frozen)
Dec. 7 Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall
Dec. 8 General meeting, slide show, cookie bash,
art show—7:30 p.m., CUH

BOARD NEWS

Agnes Sieger

We picked up 120 new members at the annual exhibit, sold about \$6500 worth of goods, and entertained over twice as many people as last year; to aid in future shows, Bruce DeLoria will set up a computer database with time lines, committee needs and responsibilities, and drawings of the physical layout. Patrice Benson would like to resign as Cooking & Tasting chair, and has her eye on a replacement. The nominating committee to select candidates for next year's election consists of Dick Sieger, Patrice Benson, and Carol Smith. We found out accidentally that three companies (two local and one in Connecticut) planned to take our identified mushrooms after the show and assay them for drug properties. We refused everybody, citing our long-standing policy to give fungi only to the collector or to people giving classes. We will ask the companies for written statements on why our policy should be changed.

Paul Stamets (206 426-9292) will pay a reward for fresh specimens of *Grifola frondosa* found on conifers.

Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 1992, at 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle

This month's program will be a presentation by Pacific Northwest truffle expert Dr. James Trappe, Professor of Forest Science at Oregon State University in Corvallis. For many of us, especially those who have had the opportunity to share the end of an evening and a bottle or two of good wine with Dr. Trappe, there is the pleasing memory of gentle stories and tales about his friends, whether mushrooms, forest animals, or people. In addition to providing what will surely be a most enjoyable evening, Dr. Trappe has offered to lead a truffle foray on the day following our meeting. Details will be given at the meeting.



Would members with names beginning with M-P please bring a plate of refreshments for the social hour? And don't forget to bring mushrooms for the display.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NAMA MEETING Steve Trudell

A large part of the association's business gets conducted at the trustee meetings before the NAMA forays. Here are some of the highlights of the NAMA trustee meeting at Angel Fire, New Mexico, last summer.

Hank Mashburn of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is working with mycologist John Haines of the New York State Museum on setting up a computerized database to monitor the distribution and relative abundance of mushrooms in North America. John Trestrail of the Blodgett Regional Poison Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan, presented the 1991 Mushroom Poisoning Case Registry on mushrooms that have been reported to poison people in North America. Trips are being planned to Mexico and "Czechoslovakia." Bryce Kendrick's proposal for a fungal reserve to be located somewhere in the Pacific Northwest was discussed. A draft version of a promotional pamphlet on mushroom cultivation was circulated for comment, and initial plans were discussed for a cultivation video. The Educational Committee announced plans to develop a new introduction-to-mushrooms program and is looking into transferring some of the existing slide program to videocassette. A search is on for a new editor of the NAMA newsletter *Mycophile*.

If you would like more information about any of these goings-on, give me a call (721-0552) and I'll do my best to fill you in or put you in touch with the appropriate person in NAMA.

FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

Mary Lynch

At the November membership meeting, there will be sign-up sheets for members who are interested in sharing rides to field trips, in finding friends to go out with in smaller groups, and in going out during the week.

"Edible but not recommended," a phrase that strikes a nice balance between gastronomy and toxicology.

—The New Yorker

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Crystal Springs

Dick Sieger

Fifty people, many of them beginners, came to our first fall field trip. Mary Lynch hosted, and Sara Clark and Brian Luther identified our collections. We listened spellbound as Brian discussed mushrooms with the people who found them. Almost a hundred species appeared on the table. Three of them had equivocal names. *Cortinarius subfoetidus* has a sub-pleasant odor and an intense violet cap, *Gomphidius subroseus* is sub-flavorful with a fine texture, and *Cantharellus subalbidus* is sub-hard to find this early in the season. We saw a basket of handsome *Boletus edulis* and *Leccinum aurantiacum*. Kern Hendricks carried the basket. Did Elizabeth find the mushrooms?

Belfair State Park

Mary Lynch

Thirty-five brave mushroom hunters ventured into the newly wet woods in the Belfair area. Over 65 species were identified by Brian Luther, Sara Clark, and Dick Sieger. White chanterelles were the main edible found. The sun came out for the potluck and to dry off the wet clothes.

Joint Mountaineers/PSMS

Agnes Sieger

Mountaineers and PSMS members met at the Crystal Springs parking lot October 10 and split into groups to go mushroom hunting. Dick and I ferried a new mountaineer to Lake Kachess, where she found a matsutake button on our first stop. We should have stayed there, since the Lake Kachess campground was dry, and the higher elevations had all been logged. The woods remaining were heavily hunted, but we found a respectable number of "red caps" (*Leccinum aurantiacum*) and miscellaneous other fungi.

Almost 90 people were crammed into the lodge that weekend, including two work parties—one removing a tree overhanging the power line and another pouring concrete to extend the basement under the lodge. All work on the 80 acres surrounding the lodge is volunteer, from grooming the slopes of the three ski runs to wiring, repairing, and maintaining the lodge and feeding its inhabitants. The cook voluntarily does three meals a day every weekend the lodge is filled! I was impressed.

If we were impressed with The Mountaineers, they seemed to enjoy interacting with PSMS, enthusiastically collecting, discussing, and keying out fungi with identifiers Coleman Leuthy, Sara Clark, and Larry Baxter. On Sunday, Mountaineers filled the kitchen as Mary Lynch demonstrated how to clean, prepare, and cook some of

Patti the Cook and helpers rolling up cinnamon rolls Saturday night



Coleman Leuthy and Irwin Kleinman at the sorting table

the mushrooms found during the weekend. The results: a cabbage-apple-*Leccinum* casserole, sauted *Lactarius deliciosus* on toast, and chanterelle and matsutake soup.

Twanoh State Park

Dick Sieger

Our first field trip after the exhibit was a meeting of old and new generations. After accompanying some wonderful new members on their first mushroom hunt, I was delighted to return to the shelter and find it filled with old friends. Dave Schmidt was Field Trip Chair before me in 1976, when people came in campers and stayed for the weekend. We noted that now most people come for the day, but the format and locations for our trips are largely unchanged. Emma Chaplin and I talked about field trips to Oak Patch, a private camp on an unpaved road. Now it is owned by the State, the road is paved, and we can't find it. George Rafanelli, Nettie Laycock, Sara Clark, Dorothy Tarr, and Brian Luther identified. Brian seldom deserts his post, but rumors of a matsutake patch lured him away and, for the first time ever, says Pam, he was late for dinner!

MEET THE ROBERTS

Inga Wilcox

Guy and Pacita Roberts have been members of PSMS since 1983, having moved here from the Los Angeles area. Pacita's journey to our state began in the Philippines, where she was born of Chinese parents. She grew up mostly in Okinawa and spent some years in Tokyo taking Japanese and Asian studies, anthropology, history, and art. Later she attended California State Polytechnic University in Pomo-



na. There she met Guy, who was studying to become a dentist. Pacita was studying microbiology. While taking some undergraduate classes in mycology and medical mycology, she became interested in the scientific aspect of fungi, but is quick to point out that she really enjoys mushrooms because she "likes to eat." Her favorites are shiitake, chanterelles, and *Boletus edulis*. Pacita likes to cook and creates dishes featuring Asian cuisine.

After receiving her BA at Cal-Pol, she attended UCLA and received a Master's in Biostatistics. When Guy entered the School of Dentistry at the University of Washington, they moved here, liked it, and stayed. Guy is now in private practice, and their family has grown by a daughter, Kimberly, who is now 21 months old.

Pacita has served on the board, hosted forays, and helped with the exhibit and publicity. She is always on hand to take care of the audio-visual setup for our speakers. She works out of her own home on medical research for the UW, compiling statistics on infectious diseases.

To wind down she plays racquetball and, with Guy, goes skiing. Guy has a dahlia garden and is an avid mushroom hunter. He has good eyes and can "spot mushrooms from the car." How long before Kimberly will find her first mushroom?

TIME TO JOIN NAMA

Steve Trudell

It's time to renew your membership in the North American Mycological Association or to join if you aren't already a member. Just make out a check to "NAMA" for \$12 and send it along with your separate PSMS membership renewal to Bernice Velategui.

MUSHROOMS

Valerie J. Palmer

[*Mycofile*, Newsletter of the Vancouver, B.C. Myco. Soc.]

Mushrooms
Smelling of earth and fruitfulness
Popping up overnight
Like small ghosts
In many disguises
To linger in cool shade.

Tempresses
In gaudy caps and silken dresses
Inviting us to taste
Succulent flesh.
(But beware the pure white Angel
For her kiss is death!)

Sanctuaries
For tiny insects
Hiding in fragile velvet gills
Umbrellas in the rain
Parasols in the sun
At peace with their world.

Microscopic spores
Blowing like smoke
Drifting on wayward winds
To settle who knows where?
And leaving their footprints
On pathways into town.

Mushrooms
As ancient as the Earth
And as full of secrets
Short-lived yet born again
Spring to Fall to Spring.
Take care please, where you tread!

CULTIVATION GROUP

Milly Myers



The next Cultivation Group meeting will be 1:00 p.m., November 8, at Harry Stand-er's. Harry has some fir and maple logs down on his property that we will inoculate with shiitake plugs and sawdust spawn. We may need to cut some of these logs into shorter sections, so if you have a chain saw or an electric or cordless drill with a 3/8-in. bit, please bring them along. This will be outside work, so come properly dressed for the weather. Harry will have coffee ready for us. Any finger-food munchies you can bring to go with the coffee would be welcome. Address: 8225 197th Street S.E., Snohomish, WA. Phone: 481-6218. Take Highway 9 to Clearview/Snohomish. His house is 1 mile south of Clearview and is the last house on the north side of 197th. See you there.



Farewell



Charter member Charles Volz died unexpectedly October 21, 1992. Charlie was instrumental in founding PSMS and served as its second president. He served on the board (several times), chaired the Field Trip and I.D. committees, and was involved in almost every aspect of the Society. Although inactive in recent years because of ill health, he never lost his abiding interest in mushrooms and PSMS. All who knew him will miss him. Our condolences to his wife, Mary, and their children and grandchildren.



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