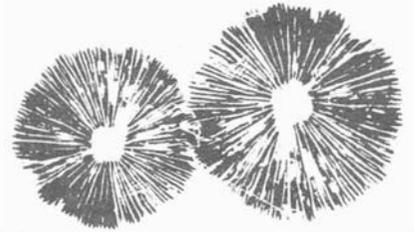


# SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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*Season's Greetings*

# Spore Prints

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**PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Center for Urban Horticulture, Mail Stop GF-15,  
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## Membership Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 1992, at 7:30 p.m., at the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle



nce again it's time for our holiday cookie bash and slide show—and, special this year, our first annual arts and crafts show.

The hosting, table decorations, and beverages will be provided by PSMS board members, and the plates of refreshments will be provided by each of you. Refreshments can be cookies, fruits, crackers and cheeses, etc. Please either use a disposable plate or have your name clearly marked on a piece of tape on the underside; pass your plate to one of the board members in the kitchen before finding your seat and joining the social hour.

Members with arts or crafts can drop off their work between 5:15 and 7:00 p.m. People with slides for the program need to see Ron Post for a few minutes before the meeting starts; remember, your slides do not need to be of or about mushrooms. Because of the extended social hour, this meeting is usually a popular time to look over our book sales table and visit with our many new members.



## CALENDAR

- 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
- Dec. 12 Field trip, 10:00 a.m., Ostrom's Farm (car pool, 8:00-8:15 a.m., CUH parking lot)
- Dec. 14 Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall
- Dec. 18 *Spore Prints* deadline
- Dec. 21 Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH  
Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall
- Dec. 28 Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall
- Jan. 4 Advanced i.d., 5-7 p.m., Hitchcock Hall

## BOARD NEWS

Agnes Sieger



ook sales at the November meeting totaled over \$885. Patrice Benson, Elizabeth Hendricks, and Mary Lynch will look into doing a new PSMS cookbook. American Ridge Lodge is reserved for the Memorial Day field trip; Kaner Flats will be available for trailers. Scott Lieske now chairs the Cultivation Group; they will hold a field trip to Ostrom's Mushroom Farm December 12th. The Board agreed to buy material for a laminar flow hood for mushroom cultivation. Collecting at Barlow Pass has ended for the season; categorizing the finds is continuing. The Pacific Northwest Key Council has agreed to help with the 1993 NAMA foray (setup, sorting, i.d., displays, classes, etc.) and with our foray at the Cispus Environmental Center next May. PSMS will buy Jennie Schmitt's two microscopes and make them available for club use. The Board agreed to set up some kind of merit award to honor people who have made extraordinary contributions to PSMS.

## CALL FOR ARTS & CRAFTS

Joanne Young



ttention artists and crafts people! PSMS will have an arts and crafts show at the December membership meeting. The King County Arts Commission has invited PSMS to participate in their "Best of Show" project as part of a national movement entitled "1993: Year of the American Craft." They would like us to choose "a strong example of the work our membership produces" and have encouraged us to choose something that relates somehow to mushrooming. (This is their recommendation, but not a requirement.)

The art show will have a dual purpose: to choose an entry for submission to the Arts Commission, and to have fun and see some of the work of our diverse and talented club.

The membership will act as jury at the December meeting to choose our "best of show" candidate. Artists may also offer their art for sale at that time.

All artists and crafts people are encouraged to participate. The more the merrier. Even if your work does not relate directly to mushrooms, it will be welcome at the show.

Please call Joanne Young at 633-0752 for more details. I know it is short notice, but entries must be submitted before December 5th so we can plan the display space. (Just call and tell what you plan to bring.)

If you would like to help with organizing this event, or with hanging art, please call also.

## MEET THE McKNIGHTS

Inga Wilcox

Lyle and Joy have been members for 21 years and enjoyed every single year of it. They have made good friends and are delighted to see young people taking hold in PSMS.



In 1971, after a big burn in the Entiat Valley, they joined neighbors looking for morels. They found some and became interested. That same year, they attended the Annual Exhibit at the Science Center and signed up. Both are doers. Lyle and Joy have hosted field trips; Lyle chaired one Annual Show; Joy worked on the Morel Committee and served as Membership Chair. It is not unusual to see either one of them helping out, literally "rolling up their sleeves."

They enjoy the taste of chanterelles, boletes, and morels. Some years back, they hunted in the Skagit Valley and found a patch of very unusual *Verpa bohemica*. The stipes were the usual creamy color, but the caps were a true lemon yellow. The same thing happened the following year. Although they took some of these verpas to the Botany Department at the University, they never did find out what caused this aberration.

Lyle retired from Boeing as a Senior Manufacturing Engineer. Some years back, Boeing sent him to South Africa for a six months term and both took full advantage of this opportunity. Visiting as much of the country as possible, they especially enjoyed game farms. The trip also allowed them to go around the world and to see Australia and Fiji, among other countries. Now they enjoy travel in their RV, visiting many places in the States.

Always active, Joy does sewing and off-loom weaving. Lyle does clock and watch repair and also makes jewelry, using silver and semiprecious stones.

## CULTIVATION GROUP

Milly Myers

In spite of bad weather, we had a great turnout at Harry Stander's home. Twenty-seven members attended, 13 being new cultivators. Harry had maple logs ready, and Lynn Phillips provided shitake plugs and sawdust spawn. Half the logs were drilled and plugged, and half were inoculated by a new method of making kerf cuts and filling the cuts with sawdust spawn. Everyone went home with a couple of logs, and, with some TLC, we hope they will be fruiting sometime this next year. It would be helpful if everyone would keep some written documentation on the care of their logs. In the next few months, we will share this information to see which method is most successful.

For those who braved the wet conditions, the woods near Harry's house yielded chanterelles and, for one lucky hunter, a sparassis in prime condition.

Scott Lieske will be our new Cultivation chair. We thank Sondra Shira for chairing the Cultivation Group this past year.

The Cultivation Group will sponsor a tour of Ostrom's mushroom Farm in Olympia on Saturday, December 12, at 10 a.m. The tour is open to all PSMS members.

Our tour guide will be the only Ostrom's person on duty that morning, so it is important that we arrive on time. The tour will last about 1-1/4 hours, and questions will be welcome. Ostrom's would like to know how many will be attending, so please RSVP Scott and Colleen Lieske (789-1959) by Thursday evening, December 10th. For those who want to car pool, meet at 8:00-8:15 a.m. at the CUH parking lot. Directions to Ostrom's follow: Go south on I-5 through Tacoma to Exit 111 (before Olympia) and turn south (left) on Marvin Road. Continue past the Ilawak Prairie market to Steilacoom Road. (There are baseball fields on the right.) Turn left (east). Ostrom's Farm is on both sides of Steilacoom Road. The office is on the south side (right). Ostrom's address is 8323 Steilacoom Road S.E. Scott and Colleen have maps and will mail one out upon request.

## MUSHROOM MISSIONARIES

Agnes Sieger



On October 20, Patrice Benson gave a talk to about 50 people in the culinary arts program at Seattle Central Community College. Patrice also did a series of three evening classes for Powerful Schools, a coalition of four Seattle elementary schools, the end of October and the first two weeks in November. Patrice and Lynn Phillips gave a lecture to Steve Trudell's mycology class at The Evergreen State College on November 9.

## BARLOW PASS STUDY

Carol Smith



Gathering of mushrooms at Barlow Pass has ended until spring because of frost. Thanks to all of you who helped so much. Help is still needed. The opportunity to participate is opening up to those who have computer data interests. We meet Mondays from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Hitchcock Hall on the University of Washington campus. We will be correlating data obtained this summer until collecting begins this next spring.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dick Sieger



Should we have an annual exhibit next fall? October 1993 is special because we will host several hundred people at the NAMA foray in Port Townsend just a few days after our exhibit in Seattle. Some of our board members feel that people working on both events might wear down. How do you feel?

Do you want to be an officer or board member? Soon we will elect a vice-president, secretary, five board members, and three alternate board members. Patrice Benson, Carol Smith, and I are the nominating committee, and we need to hear from candidates. You may also nominate any willing member from the floor at the December and January meetings. PSMS boards have traditionally included some newer members, and that is one reason for their success. Why not give us a call?

Agnes and I look forward to another wonderful year working with you on our society's projects. Thank you for sharing your talents, your friendliness, and your secret mushroom patches with us. We hope your holidays are happy and the new year fills your basket.

**NOTE:** Committee chairs may get information from the PSMS database. Call Dick Sieger at 362-6860.



## WORKSHOPS, FORAYS

### Amazon Forays for Mushrooms and Medicinal Plants:

(1) Down river to the Ociamas, Yaguas, Boras, and Huitotos, January 30 to February 13, 1993; (2) up river to the Ururinas, Muratos, and Huranuanosos, February 13 to February 27, 1993. \$3,500/person/trip or \$5,800 for both (includes lodging, transportation, food and drink, and air fare to and from Miami, Florida). If interested, contact the Wild Mushroom Traveling Road Show, P.O. Box 126, East Haddam, CT 06432 - (203) 873-8286.

**Adirondack Weekends:** Mushroom and lichen workshops at the Hotel Saranac, Saranac Lake, New York. Mushroom workshops, August 19-22 and 26-29 1993; lichen workshops, June 17-20, 1993. Registration fee must be received by February 1, 1993. For information, contact Alan and Arleen Bessette, 17 Wills Drive, New Hartford, NY 13413 - (315) 792-3132.

### PSMS DUES ARE DUE



Unless you joined PSMS after October 1, 1992, your membership expires the end of this month. There is a grace period until after the elections in February, but why don't we all give Bernice a break and get our dues in on time this year. Just return the enclosed renewal form, along with a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to Membership Chair Bernice Velategui.

PS: Wouldn't a PSMS membership make a nice gift for someone you know?

## NOVA SCOTIA FUNGUS STUDY

[condensed from  
*Mycophile*, Vancouver, B.C., Myco. Soc.]



Studies in Europe have shown drastic changes in mushroom compositions. In some areas, ectomycorrhizal species (symbiotic with higher plants) have decreased from about 60% of the total fungal composition to as low as 4%; lignicolous species (decomposers and parasites of "sound" wood) have increased, while saprophytic species (decomposers of dead material) have remained constant. The decrease in ectomycorrhizal fungi is believed to be caused by the combination of a high nitrogen content in the soil and reduced transport of carbohydrates from the host plant because of the harmful effects of sulfur dioxide on photosynthesis.

As a result of the European studies, a long-term bio-monitoring project has been set up in Kejimikujik National Park, Nova Scotia, to determine whether a similar decline is occurring there. The park receives significant amounts of air pollution from the northeastern U.S. and southern Canada. Precipitation often has a pH < 4.7, which is considered damaging to the environment. Some pH has measured as low as 3.4!

Permanent plots were established in various forest habitats, and a complete description was obtained of the vegetation and fleshy fungi. This took 2 years. The overall composition of fleshy fungi in all the study plots was 61% ectomycorrhizal, 20% terrestrial saprophytic, and 19% lignicolous. The baseline information (species composition and abundance, ground vegetation, soil pH, etc.) will now be used in future comparative studies.

Cover art by Marilyn Droege.



page 4



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