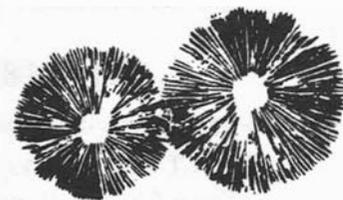


# SPORE PRINTS



BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 305

October 1994

## ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Joanne Young

The Annual Exhibit is just around the corner, and final preparations are being made. Sign-up was very good at the September membership meeting, but there's still plenty to do. The committee chairs are eager to hear from you. Give them a call or plan to sign up at the October meeting. We really need your help.

**Mushroom collecting:** George Rafanelli and Russ Kurtz will be talking at the October meeting about mushroom collecting techniques. Everyone is encouraged to go out to collect for the show. Any and all good specimens are needed. Don't worry about duplicating a collection; sometimes the most common mushrooms are overlooked. And if you happen to find lots of edibles, the Cooking & Tasting Committee will happily accept them.

**Hospitality:** Lori Knox and the Hospitality Committee will again provide welcome sustenance to hungry exhibit workers. Every member is asked to bring a dish to share (salads, casseroles, dessert, fruit, etc.)

**Parking:** The neighborhood around CUH is putting pressure on the Center to control street congestion during events like ours. Please don't park on the neighborhood streets. This year PSMS will not be prepaying for parking in the CUH lot on Saturday morning. Parking is \$1.50 in UW lots before noon. After noon, it's free. Since many of you are coming early to prepare the exhibit on Saturday, this is what we suggest: Come and unload whatever you have brought. Then please move your car to either Lot E4 or Lot E5—off Clark Road west of Union Bay Place north of CUH. (Note: **Volunteers are needed to shuttle workers to and from the parking lots**—call Parking & Security Chair Don Schultz at 226-2217 to sign up.) If parking in E4 or E5 creates a hardship for you, or if you must have quick access to your car throughout the show, then go ahead and park at CUH. Either way, parking money will be available at Cooking & Tasting to reimburse your expense. The purpose of this is to keep the CUH lot available for the public. Thanks for your help with this.

### Corrections to the list of exhibit committee chairs:

Committee	Chair	Phone
ID Table	Brian Luther	522-1051
Cooking, Tasting & Preservation	Colleen Holsapple & Lynn Phillips	361-6297 524-2950
Microscopy	Thomas Moore	323-3375
Video Recording	Mary Robins	523-0473

## FORENSIC MYCOLOGY 101

Paul Kroeger

condensed from *Mycophile*, Vancouver Myco. Soc., 9/94

"Teenager Dies After Eating Mushrooms," screamed the headlines last spring. The stories said that an 18-year-old Courtenay resident had died in his sleep early Thursday, May 5, 1994, after eating what he thought were "magic mushrooms" he and two other teenagers had picked the previous day in a local park.

Police speculated that the victim choked on his own vomit and died of respiratory failure, not mushroom poisoning, but said that authorities were analyzing samples of his stomach contents.

"Authorities" sounds so official. On May 13 a courier arrived at my house from the Provincial Toxicology Laboratory with the samples—two vials sealed, bagged, packed in a plastic tub, and enclosed in a cardboard box with a cooling pack emblazoned

(cont. on p. 3)

## EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIP

Coleman Leuthy

Overnight Foray Hosted by The Mountaineers  
October 15 and 16, 1994

- Saturday morning: Group collecting. Bring your lunch. (All other meals will be provided through Sunday lunch.)
- Saturday afternoon: Identification and helping our hosts learn about mushrooms.
- Saturday evening: Slide program.
- Sunday: Nearby collecting; a review of collected mushrooms; mushroom preparation and tasting for lunch; then you're on your own.

Your car needs to have reasonable clearance to ford a small stream and drive around a few rocks. There is a walk to the lodge of about 1/8 mile. Backpacks are a good idea; however, we have a truck to get your gear up to the lodge. You need to bring a sleeping bag, warm clothes, rain gear, toothbrush, towel, pillow, etc.

The dorms (men's, women's, family, and committee) are upstairs and include a sink. The toilet is in the basement. Each person will be expected to help with one hut committee—that is, table setting and serving, cleaning johns, washing pots and pans, meal preparation, etc. You sign yourself up on the list of chores. Work with Mountaineers so they can help you with the routine.

Meet at 9:30 AM at Crystal Springs campground. Take I-90 to exit 62; at the stop turn right. Turn right again into the campground entrance after about 1/4 mile. Do not cross the river. The campground is at the end of the long straight stretch. This is where it all starts. We'll break into four to six groups and go collecting. About 3:00 PM, our group leaders will guide each group to the lodge.

The cost, \$27, includes three enjoyable meals. Space is limited to 30 PSMS members. No refunds after October 12th. Secure your reservation with a \$27 check made out to "The Mountaineers." Mail it by October 8th to

Coleman Leuthy  
2455 East Lake Washington Blvd.  
Seattle, WA 98112

Questions? Car pooling info? Call Coleman, 322-2554.

# Spore Prints

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**PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Center for Urban Horticulture, Mail Stop GF-15  
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(206) 522-6031

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## CALENDAR

Oct. 7-10	Schmok Foray, British Columbia
Oct. 8	Hamlin Park field trip, 10:00 AM
Oct. 11	Membership meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH
Oct. 12	Intermediate ID class, 7:00 PM, CUH
Oct. 15	Mountaineers/PSMS field trip, 9:30 AM, Crystal Springs campground (by reservation)
Oct. 17	Board meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH
Oct. 18	Intermediate ID class, 7:30 PM, CUH
Oct. 21	<i>Spore Prints</i> deadline
Oct. 22	Annual Exhibit, 12:00-8:00 PM
Oct. 23	Annual Exhibit, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
Oct. 24	Basic ID class, 7:00 PM, CUH
Oct. 25	Intermediate ID class, 7:00 PM, CUH
Oct. 29	Field Trip, Twanoh State Park
Oct. 31	Basic ID class, 7:00 PM, CUH
Nov. 1	Intermediate ID class, 7:00 PM, CUH

## COOKING & TASTING

Colleen Holsapple

The Cooking & Tasting Committee would very much appreciate donations of fresh or dried mushrooms to be used for sampling and cooking at the Annual Exhibit. Label the donations with the words "for Cooking & Tasting" and either bring them to the membership meeting October 11 or leave them at the exhibit Friday night, Saturday, or Sunday. Cooking & Tasting is one of the exhibit's most popular features, so we need all the mushrooms we can get. It's also one of the most fun committees to work on. Call Colleen at 361-6297 to volunteer to help.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, October 11, 1994, at 7:30 PM in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle

Annie York will speak on "Mushrooming with Map and Compass." Annie is a member of the Cascade Orienteering Club and an avid mushroomer. Come learn how to find those big ones hiding in the backwoods, get out safely, and find them again.

As an added attraction, George Rafanelli and Russ Kurtz will again demonstrate how to find, collect, and care for mushroom specimens for the exhibit.

Would people whose last names begin with the letters E-H please bring a plate of refreshments for the social hour?

## BOARD MEETING

Dick Sieger

Annual dues, unaltered for seven years, were changed to \$20 for both family and single memberships and to \$10 for students; income has failed to meet expenses (the cost of printing and mailing newsletters for single members, for example, exceeded income from the dues). Frank and Fran Ikeda are producing raffle tickets for our next meeting and the exhibit; winners may get a cookbook, Kathy Casey's video, a sweatshirt, a painting, a framed poster, a mushroom cultivation kit, a weekend retreat in a cabin, and more; income from this venture will finance the president's discretionary fund to help members with limited incomes pay for PSMS classes and functions. At our September meeting, we made \$375 selling T-shirts featuring Marilyn Droege's new poster design. Exhibit Chair Joanne Young reported good progress on plans for this year's show; exhibit workers are encouraged to park in nearby University lots (free after Saturday morning), not in the Laurelhurst neighborhood or next to CUH buildings. Creation of the exhibit will be documented on video by Mary Robins. PSMS reserved a booth at the February 22-26 Northwest Garden Show in the Convention Center; Colleen Holsapple is in charge. Coleman's tree walk at the Arboretum last June was so popular that Education Chair Marshall Palmer is arranging for someone to conduct another one in October or November.

## CULTIVATION GROUP

Greg Chew

The Cultivation Group will be exhibiting techniques for tissue culturing and grain-spawn propagation at the Annual Exhibit. Additional volunteers to help at the table are encouraged to sign up at the October meeting. Fungi Perfecti will also be in attendance and will have available commercial spawn kits and information on other cultivation supplies and equipment.

The group is exploring a field trip to Fungi Perfecti, tentatively scheduled for the weekend of October 15th. Notification will be made by phone to last year's attendees. A general message will also be available on the PSMS phone information recording.

Following the Annual Exhibit, there will be a Cultivation Group planning meeting. It will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, November 12, at Greg Chew's home in Seward Park.

**Plea for Mushrooms:** Mushrooms are the whole reason for our Annual Exhibit, yet the same people seem to go out collecting every year. This year, I urge everyone in PSMS, especially newcomers, to collect. You needn't trek into the wilderness. A lot of interesting things grow right around town. —Brian Luther



Walter and Lori joined PSMS ten years ago. They had just moved to Seattle from California—before it became a crime! They both had attended the University of California at Berkeley, married, and come to Seattle, where Walter had a job with Boeing. He is still working for that company in the capacity of a Facilities Electrical Engineer.

Having attended the Annual Exhibit, they signed up and enjoyed beginning and intermediate classes. Walter also took a microscopy class, and both participated in many forays, hosting and learning from the display table. They remember finding an extremely large *Hydnum* once and especially remember a foray when they came upon a field with a good number of *Agaricus campestris*. They asked the property owner for permission to gather mushrooms on his land. He was firmly convinced that they were looking for psychedelic specimens but finally believed them when they showed their PSMS ID cards. Morels are Walter's favorite; Lori likes oyster mushrooms and *Agaricus*, preferably cooked in butter and wine over pasta. Walter and Lori got interested in cultivation and joined the Cultivation Group under Margaret Dilly. They grow oyster mushrooms with good results. Walter attended a class with Paul Stamets. Lori again will preside over the kitchen at the Annual Exhibit; she has volunteered for this post for many years.

Two little Knoxes have joined the family: Andrew 4-1/2 years old and Julia 7 months. It is not always easy to go mushrooming with the kids, but they do go out as a family.

Their hobbies include computer "interneting," hiking, and camping. Walter brews beer, an "amber ale," and likes hot springs like Goldmyer out of North Bend. They enjoy friends they made within the Society, and Lori would like to remind newcomers: "Don't expect to find something each time you go out. You need to know what you are looking at."

#### Forensic Mycology, cont. from p. 1

with biohazard stickers. The "Dangerous Goods" shipping form said the contents were "Body Fluid in Formaldehyde," and the billing was to BC Coroners Service. The courier looked nervous.

Using facilities at UBC and *Toxic and Hallucinogenic Mushroom Poisoning* by Mitchell and Lincoff, which describes examination of prepared food samples, stomach contents, etc., as a guide,

I first examined the material macroscopically, but recognized no large mushroom fragments. I then examined drops of liquid from a vigorously shaken sample microscopically but found no identifiable mushroom spores or tissue. I decided to go high-tech.

I filtered about 10 ml of a shaken sample and examined the filtrate microscopically, again with negative results. Then I centrifuged the filtrate at 7000 x G for 10 minutes and examined samples of the solid residue in KOH and Melzer's reagent under various magnifications. The Melzer's revealed mostly starch bodies, probably potatoes, but no identifiable spores. I tried Acid fuchsin and Ponceau S, microscopy stains that are supposed to preferentially stain fungal tissue, but all the structures I recognized were either nondiagnostic or definitely nonfungal.

With no conclusive results from the high-tech approach, I decided to use the traditional approach. I poured the whole vial of formaldehyde-treated sample into a clean soup bowl and picked through it with forceps and a probe under a dissecting scope.

The scope revealed numerous tiny white flakes, most under 2 to 3 mm square, scattered throughout the material. These proved to be gill fragments, and squash mounts showed clearly cystidia, basidiolles, gill trama, and, very rarely, a spore. The spores I did observe were 10–14 microns long, broadly ellipsoid, thin walled, colorless, and non-amyloid (not reactive in Melzer's reagent)—all consistent with *Amanita pantherina*.

The major toxins in *A. Pantherina* are ibotenic acid and muscimol, the same toxins found in *A. muscaria*. These mushrooms sometimes induce nausea and vomiting about half an hour after ingestion followed later by a semicomatose state. For that reason, they are usually imbibed on an empty stomach. It was commented that the victim had smoked a lot of *Cannabis* and had "eaten a lot more than the others." *Cannabis* and ibotenic acid/muscimol are noted for an antinausea effect. It seems likely that heavy ingestion of food and suppression of vomiting may have contributed to the tragic outcome of this case.

#### FIELD TRIPS Mari-Claire Uccello and Wayne Elston

**October 8** **Hamlin County Park**  
(elev. 240 ft, a half mile north of Seattle)

Hamlin County Park is in Shoreline, just north of Seattle at 16006 15th Ave. N.E. It is served by Metro busses. Meet at 10:00 AM at the shelter near the ball-field concession stand. Bring a lunch and stay until early afternoon studying the mushrooms that grow in this urban forest. Please don't collect polypores!

**October 15, 16** **The Mountaineers/PSMS Joint Trip**

Coleman Leuthy, Leader. Meet at Crystal Springs Forest Camp at 9:30 AM on Saturday morning, break into groups for collecting, then follow The Mountaineers group leaders to The Mountaineers lodge. By reservation.

**October 29, 30** **Twanoh State Park**  
(elev. 20 ft, 20 miles 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 or 80 miles to the drive. Twanoh State Park is located on the south side of Hood Canal between Belfair and Union.

## REPORT FROM SCOTLAND

Roy Watling

It is nearly a year since I was with you all in Seattle and enjoying the atmosphere, friends and fungi at Fort Worden. I was delighted to receive an honorarium from your Society which I put towards financing an Edinburgh student to go to Cameroon. He was to work at the Botanic Garden at Limbe training horticulturists but agreed to collect larger fungi for me in order to expand my knowledge of the fungi of the area. Some of you will remember the bizarre species I had collected there on previous occasions, photographs of which I shared with many of you thru' my lectures.

The student, Chris Collins, has just returned to Edinburgh after a successful trip. He managed to collect for me material from Mount Cameroon. Mk Kupe, where I have personally never been, the Mabuti-Moliwe low rainforest and from Korup, an area I have studied intensively for some years. Chris also purchased a bag of *Termitomyces* from the market place in Douala.

It is early days yet as the specimens have only just arrived but amongst the collections are *Russula* and *Lactarius*, an *Amanita* and a *Cantharellus* and several *Lentinus* spp. and *Lepiota* (s. lato) sp. One of the *Russula* spp. has a well-developed ring! This material will keep me busy for a long time to come especially as finance for the W. African programme has now finished and I am now heavily involved in Malaysian fungi. That's how the cookie crumbles these days.

Thanks for your help; I know that you would like to know your money has been well used.

## SCOTLAND IN '95

Harley Barnhart, Kit Scates Barnhart, and Judy Roger are recruiting 10-20 committed participants to study microscopy at the Kindrogan Field Centre, near Pitlochry, Scotland, with Dr. Roy Watling, August 19-26, 1995. The course will be at an intermediate to advanced level, intended for students who already have some skill with the compound light microscope. Collecting specimens in the nearby Grampian Mountains will occupy

most mornings, with afternoons and evenings for lectures and "over the shoulder" instruction. To enroll or for more information, call Kit or Harley at (208) 773-4132; for information only, call Judy Roger at (503) 630-2689. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. [Ed. Note: Because of deadline timing, this notice is about a month late. If interested, call *now*.]

## NOTES OF THIS AND THAT

**New Address:** Membership Chair **Bernice Velategui** moved to 3204 West Concord Way #479, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Her phone number remains (206) 232-0845.

**Mushroom Missionary:** Past-President **Dick Sieger** presented a talk on "Urban Mushrooms" to the Vancouver Mycological Society at their meeting September 6.

**Thanks from Katherine G. Bond** to PSMS for checking the accuracy of "Night of the Fungi," her children's story published in the October *Clubhouse* magazine. A copy is in our library.

**Thanks to Alphagraphics Printshops of the Future**, 402 Cedar, Seattle, WA, who absorbed the substantial cost of printing our impressive exhibit poster.

## C. G. LLOYD, MYCOLOGIST

Paul Kroeger

*Mycophile*, Vancouver, B.C., Mycological Society, 9/94

C. G. Lloyd (1859-1926), aka Professor N. J. McGinty of the Poseyville Fungus Forage Club and its only member, was North America's most colorful and irritating mycologist. He proposed the name *Corticoides reticulatum* for a fungus "on the same principle apparently (it being neither a *Corticium* nor reticulate) that the name *Tremellodendron* was proposed for plants that were neither 'tremellas' nor 'trees.'" He had a tombstone placed in Crittenden, Kentucky, that read: *Curtis Gate Lloyd monument erected in 1922 by himself for himself during his life to gratify his own vanity*. After some fuss was created, he added Puck's line, *What fools these mortals be*.

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