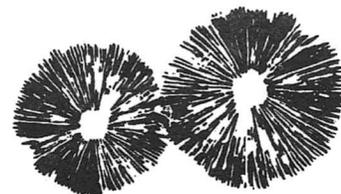


SPORE PRINTS



BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 324

September 1996

THE WILD MUSHROOM EXHIBIT Joanne Young

The Wild Mushroom Exhibit is back. Preparations are going well for our 33rd annual show. This year the show is early. October 12 and 13 are the dates to save. With your help, it's sure to be a success.

Spreading the Word

The 1996 exhibit poster will be revealed at the September meeting. Marilyn Droege has designed and produced a beautiful poster, featuring a charming photograph taken by Joy Spurr. Thank you, Marilyn, for all the talent and hours you've given. And thank you, Joy, for a wonderful photograph.

The posters will be ready for distribution at the September meeting. Here's where you really come in. Please plan to take 5-10 posters and flyers to distribute. Put them up in your neighborhood shopping areas, cafes, libraries, schools, ranger stations, or wherever you think they will be well seen. Experience shows that this is the single most important thing we can do to promote the show.

A Job for Everyone

Following this announcement, you'll see a list of names of people who have taken responsibility for part of the show. These are our dedicated committee chairs. Most of them will be at the September meeting to explain what their committees do and what you can do to help. If you see a committee that looks interesting, or you have an idea to share, call them. They'll be glad to hear from you.

The committees that need the most volunteers are Cooking & Tasting, Construction, Mushroom Collecting, Book Sales, Ticket Sales, and Parking. Mushroom collecting and construction happen on Friday, October 11, so if you are free to help that day you'll be well appreciated.

Committee Requests

Janet English, who did such a great job decorating the show last year, will do it again provided she gets plenty of help. She especially needs people who can collect fresh foliage a few days before the show.

You don't have to be an experienced builder to help the Construction Committee. They need 3-4 trucks on Friday (not to mention volunteers!) for hauling tables from the curling club and the show gear from the storage shed.

We all get hungry during the show, so remember to bring a potluck item or two to share. Lori Knox will run the hospitality kitchen.

If you are a committee chair, or even if you're not, and you need a new sign, please place your order with Marilyn Droege in September.



The Black Light display needs somebody to fill it with florescent mushrooms. And then there's Parking & Security. Last year, one dear person spent most of the show in the parking lot. *Let's do better!*

New Ideas Welcome

If any one has a new idea for the exhibit, such as an activity for children, a display on cultural aspects of mushrooming, mushrooms in the news, other uses of fungi, etc., please contact me right away (633-0752).

This club puts on a fantastic mushroom show. If you've never worked on the exhibit before, you'll find it a great way to learn about mushrooms and meet your fellow members. Thank you, every one, for your good work.

1996 Committee Chairs

Exhibit Co-Chair	Joanne Young	633-0752
Exhibit Co-Chair	Charles Pregaldin	524-9997
Arts & Crafts	Cindy Kerr	640-6900
Banner	Bill Bridges	838-6378
Black Light	Put your name here	
Book Sales	Sheila Parr	235-8233
Brochure	Anita Proudfoot	367-7851
Clean-Up	Lynn Phillips	524-2950
Commercial Display	Fungi Perfecti?	206-426-9292
Conservation	Mary Lynch	391-5379
Construction	Charles Pregaldin	524-9997
Cooking & Tasting	Patrice Benson	722-0691
	& Colleen Compton	367-2694
Cultivation	Curt McClive	867-5140
Decorations	Janet English	361-0637
Feel & Smell	Dennis Krabbenhoft	874-2382
Habitat display	Bill Bridges	838-6378
Hospitality	Lori Knox	789-8156
I.D. Table	Brian Luther	522-1051
Labels Database	John Kunz	362-7402
Labeling	Larry Baxter	360-652-2482
Lichen Display	Katie Glew?	725-0433?
Membership	Bernice Velategui	232-0845
Microscopy	Brandon Matheny	722-8458
Moss Collection	Gilbert Austin	888-2606
Mushroom Collecting	Russ Kurtz	784-3382
Poster Design	Marilyn Droege	634-0394
Publicity	Patrice Benson	722-0691
	& Pacita Roberts	362-2713
Receiving	Coleman Leuthy	322-2554
Parking & Security	Boy Scouts?	?
Signs	Marilyn Droege	634-0394
Slide Show	Joy Spurr	392-6768
T-Shirt Design	Marilyn Droege	634-0394
Ticket Sales & Greeters	Lorraine Dod	644-0826
Tray Arrangement	Marian Maxwell	235-8557
Tray Tours	Marshall Palmer	527-6207

Spore Prints

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CALENDAR

Sept. 10	Membership meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH
Sept. 19	Board meeting, 7:30 PM, Board Room, CUH
Sept. 20	<i>Spore Prints</i> deadline
Sept. 21	Squire Creek field trip
Sept. 23	Microscopy Study Group, 7-9 PM, CUH Board Room
Sept. 27-30	American River field trip
Oct. 5-6	Lake Wenatchee field trip
Oct. 10	Last day to sign up for PSMS/Mountaineers field trip, Oct. 26-27
Oct. 12-13	PSMS Annual Wild Mushroom Exhibit, CUH
Nov. 9-11	PSMS Fall Foray, Lake Quinault

TREE ID WORKSHOP

On June 27, Native Plant Steward Michelle Connor led four PSMS members on a tour through the Arboretum, taking a close look at native trees and native plants of Washington. Michelle introduced us to the classification of trees and plants by families. Michelle Seidl's daughter, Victoria, summed up our thanks to Steward Connor by inscribing her name in two-foot-square letters with a stick (what family? probably an ornamental) along a sandy section of Azalea Way. No *Agaricus augustus* this year—just a lonely *Panaeolus* sp. and plenty of *Trametes versicolor* (Turkey Tail). Thank you again, Michelle, for your instruction and support.

Guinness Book of Records, 1996: The world's largest fungus, a *Rigidoporus ulmarius* in a back lot at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, measures 170 x 148 x 54 cm (5'6" x 4'10" x 1'9"), is 494 cm (16'2") around, and weighs 284 kg (626 lb).

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, September 10, 1996, at 7:30 PM in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street

The program for our first meeting this fall will feature the upcoming Annual Exhibit. Marilyn Droege and Joy Spurr will be present for the unveiling of the 1996 Exhibit Poster. The video of the 1994 show will be shown. Joanne Young will lead her band of merry show committee chairs in explaining the activities of their individual areas. Charles Pregaldin has agreed to be the show co-chair this year and will help lead the troops. Wayne and Patrice Elston will give details of the up-going fall field trips. Sheila Parr will have in some new and used books for sale at lower than show prices. Identifier and books sale will be available at 7:00 PM; new members are encouraged to come early and meet some new and old members and possibly find someone to carpool with.

Remember to bring a small tray of goodies or fruit to go along with some coffee and punch to be provided by PSMS.

MEET INGA WILCOX

Agnes Sieger



Ever since October 1990, when PSMS Field Trip Chair Inga Wilcox decided to write a little paragraph each month on the PSMS identifiers ("I was curious as to how come these people knew so much"), *Spore Prints* readers have been looking forward to her biographical profiles of PSMS members. This month, we decided to turn the tables and profile Inga.

Inga was introduced to mushrooms as a child in her native Silesia, a province in eastern Germany that is now part of Poland. One of her most vivid memories is hunting for *Agaricus* with her mother. "They tend to grow in cow pastures. So, since I was the littlest one, she gave me a basket and said, 'Go crawl through the fence and go pick them. They're right there.'" Cow pastures, as the name implies, usually contain cows. Soon one wandered over to see what was going on. "I looked up at this tremendous beast approaching me. I was terrified." But, a mushroomer born, Inga didn't forget her priorities. "I grabbed the mushroom basket and hot-footed it back through the fence."

In 1949, after sojourns in Austria and the Munich area, Inga followed her lifelong wanderlust to New York City, but found she missed green trees and mountains. In 1953, she came to Seattle for what she thought was a temporary visit. "I had planned to move on to Alaska and explore all the Arctic." While she was here, however, she met her late husband, a professor of biochemistry at the University of Washington, and they were married. "Like all true Americans, he thought all mushrooms were toadstools," but Inga soon convinced him, and later her older son and grandson, to share her enthusiasm.

Inga joined PSMS first in the mid '70s. "I was one of the lucky persons: I had a mushroom identification class with Dr. Stuntz." Then she dropped out and rejoined in 1988. In all, she has been a member for 13 years. In addition to being Field Trip Chair, she also served a term on the Board.

Inga loves traveling, and thoroughly enjoys being out in the woods. "I'm always amazed at the diversity and variety of fungi, the different colors, the shapes, the sizes." But once she sees an edible, the hunt is on. A favorite is *Boletus edulis*. She also enjoys mat-

sutake, especially since her husband was in Japan on a sabbatical. "When we lived in Japan, we had many, many wonderful dishes using matsutake."

As fascinated as she is with fungi, they are only one of Inga's many interests. She travels extensively (she loves southeast Asia) and likes to ski and climb mountains. She also takes full advantage of Big City offerings like art galleries, the opera, the theater, and the symphony. For the past 15 years she has been a docent at the Burke Museum, "which is a great chunk of my life." Because of her intensive travels, she likes to present the Eastern and Asian exhibits, and she particularly likes stimulating interest in younger people. "I try to impress upon them that they need to be open to other cultures and to realize that basically we're all humans who just happen to do things a little differently, and not to put somebody down because they don't do things the way we do."

FALL FIELD TRIPS

Wayne and Patrice Elston



Hosts are needed for all field trips but The Mountaineers. This is a great way to learn mycology, meet people, and find out where the hot spots are. Call or write Field Trip Chairs Wayne and

Patrice Elston now at (206) 222-6607 to volunteer. Their new address is P.O. Box 886, Fall City, WA 98024-0886.

General Instruction: Unless stated otherwise, the meeting time at field trips is 9:00 AM at the chosen site. Please bring a basket, knife, wax paper, compass, whistle, water, lunch, and a dish to share if you wish to join the potluck. Wear warm clothes. Include rain gear in your car or pack and wear hiking shoes or boots. Feel free to bring your friends, family, and sociable dogs.

From 9:00 to 9:30 or 10:00 AM, we check in, have munchies, and talk about the mushrooms we'll be searching for and the area around the camp site. We then head out to hunt in small groups. Identification is from noon to 4 PM. Potluck time is between 4 and 6 PM, decided on by the participants in the morning. The potlucks are always delicious, a lot of fun, and a great time to catch up on socializing. We highly recommend them!

The 2-day field trips can be attended one or both days. Meeting time is 9:00 each morning, with a potluck breakfast on Sunday for interested parties.



September 21

Squire Creek County Park
(elev. 350 ft, 65 miles NE of Seattle)

Drive north on I-5 to the Island Crossing exit, #208. Turn right on Route 530, go east through Arlington, and continue toward Darrington. Thirty miles from the freeway, there is a big sign for the park, which is on the left. Meet at the top shelter. There is a charge of \$2/car for day use (camping is optional at \$10/night). The potluck will be at 5 PM. We need hosts.

September 27-30

American River Lodge
(elev. 3100 ft, 130 miles southeast of Seattle)

From Enumclaw, southeast of Seattle, go east on Hwy 410 over Chinook Pass; 17 miles past the summit, turn right onto Bumping Lake Road, #174. Turn right after 1/4 mile and right again to go uphill and through the gate. Continue for about 1/2 mile to the lodge. Plan on camping overnight in your tent or trailer (the road is steep). The lodge is primitive but is good shelter for the potluck or in case of bad weather. There will be a small charge per car for renting the lodge.

October 5, 6

Lake Wenatchee State Park
(elev. 1800 ft., 95 miles east of Seattle)

Meet at 8:30 AM Saturday in the big shelter in the day use area for a forest walk at 9:00 AM with Mick Mueller, a forest service botanist, along with members of the National Audubon Society. We will then break for lunch at noon, go off to do our own collecting, and come back at 5:00 PM for identification and the potluck at 6:00.

October 26, 27

Mountaineers/PSMS Weekend

This is a two-day event in cooperation with The Mountaineers at their Meany Ski Lodge east of Snoqualmie Pass. Saturday includes collecting, setting up display tables, and an evening program. Sunday includes a review of collections, local collecting, and preparing mushrooms for part of our lunch. Accommodations are dormitory. Bring a sleeping bag and a lunch to eat Saturday while collecting. The cost is \$29 and includes Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and Sunday lunch. No alcohol in lodge. No pets. Contact Coleman Leuthy—2455 E. Lake Washington Blvd., Seattle, WA 98112, (206) 322-2554—for details and to sign-up. *Payment must be to Coleman by October 10.*

October 19, 20

Deception Pass State Park

November 2

Twanoh State Park

MUSHROOM ID CLASSES

Brandon Matheny

A Basic Mushroom I.D. Class will be held on six consecutive Monday evenings, 7-9 PM, in the Isaacson Classroom at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH). The dates are October 7 through November 11. This class will introduce participants to the identification of gilled and nongilled fungi and will include information on the ecology of fungi, collecting and cooking edible mushrooms, and recognizing toxic look-alikes.

An Intermediate Mushroom I.D. Class is scheduled for six sessions, 7-9 PM, in the Isaacson Classroom at CUH on consecutive Wednesdays from October 9 through November 13. This course will approach classifying fungi by families and genera, focus on identification of specimens to species, and introduce participants to the use of microscopes for identification. This course is well-suited for those who have completed the Basic Mushroom I.D. Class. Prerequisites include a knowledge of basic fungi morphology and familiarity with the use of dichotomous keys.

Mushrooms Demystified, 2nd Edition, by David Arora will be the text for both classes. Copies will be available for purchase at the first sessions.

Because of the demand for spaces, please decide which class is best suited to your needs and register for only one—Basic or Intermediate. (Basic will be offered again next spring and both will be offered again next fall.) Each class will be limited to the first 25 registrants.

To register for either class, please enclose:

1. a check for \$30, payable to PSMS
2. a self-addressed, stamped envelope
3. a note indicating which class you are registering for

and send to

Brandon Matheny
3214 S. Byron Street
Seattle, WA 98144

You will receive confirmation of your registration and further information. If you have any questions, call me at 722-8458.

MICROSCOPY STUDY GROUP **Brandon Matheny**

The next session is scheduled for Monday, September 23, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the CUH Board Room. All PSMS members are welcome to attend. No experience with microscopes is required. A video camera remains on the wish list. However, Sara Clark and Russ Parker worked together this summer to obtain six reticules that can be inserted in the eyepieces of the club's microscopes and be used to take measurements (of, for example, spores) in micron units. The addition of this kind of work will be an immense boost to the society, since micron measurements are critical to distinguish some species of closely related fungi. Thank you, Sara and Russ!

AMERICAN RIVER FIELD TRIP **Mary Lynch**

The weekend of June 14-16 was a very pretty one, and there was a good turnout of hunters, who found some *Boletus*. Many thanks to Millie and Irwin Kleinman, who secured the place for PSMS and hosted with assistance from Mary Lynch and Sheila Parr (who decided to take a ride back to Seattle in a tow truck while I, Mary, her faithful navigator, had to hitch a ride home). Many thanks to Brandon and Sara for identifying, to Ray for all the great firewood this time and in the past, and to Tom and Frank, who took the time to give me lifts up the hill and home. Thanks, too, to those of you who provided the great potluck dishes and paid your camping fees and to those who helped to haul the others' garbage home.

BOARD NEWS **Dick Sieger**

June Board Meeting: Board members volunteered to phone people who have not renewed membership and urge them to re-join. The sign-up sheet at field trips will ask if people attending are members. Book Sales Chair Sheila Parr will sell all books for a 10% discount from list price; the discount will be given to all customers. Joanne Young is retiring as Exhibit Chair after this

year; Charles Pregaldin is learning how to chair an exhibit. Brandon Matheny announced a schedule of basic and intermediate mushroom I.D. classes. Joanne Young will host a meeting to establish a PSMS Internet web site. Money was allocated to build bookcases for the library and a computer desk for the office.

August Board Meeting: Marilyn Droege presented a flyer of the exhibit poster, which will be presented at the September meeting. Funds were provided for Webmaster Steve Bell to pay for the Internet web site he established for PSMS. Patrice Benson will pass out information about PSMS and its exhibit at the Pike Place Market on Labor Day. Dr. Orson Miller will present the Stuntz Foundation's annual lecture on November 19; Hope Miller will give a cooking demonstration and lecture at CUH on November 18. Russ Parker has equipped some of the society's microscopes with eyepiece micrometers. PSMS will print postcards based on the *Amanita* and chanterelle pictured on the 1984 exhibit poster. Patrice Benson was awarded a lifetime membership in recognition of her service as president.

NOTES OF THIS AND THAT

Gary Lincoff and Emanuel Salzman are organizing a **Mushroom Study Tour of Turkey**, Oct. 30-Nov 13. Call Fungophile, Inc., (303) 296-9359, for details.

Denny Bowman writes from his new home in Thailand, saying he went mushrooming near the Laos border with a family of rice farmers. They wouldn't let him discard vermin-infested mushrooms because insects are part of the dinner anyway. "The more little critters you eat, the fewer remain to eat you."

<http://www.psms.org>

Thanks to Webmaster Steve Bell, PSMS now has our own site on the World Wide Web (<http://www.psms.org>). Check it out, and contact Steve with any comments or suggestions about improvements, items to include, etc.

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