

'Eleu!
 Hana! Hana!
 Hana!



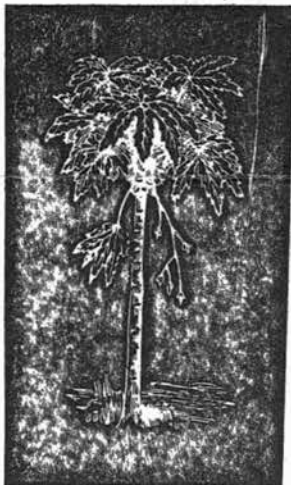
Nui 'ono Mea'ai
 Me Nui Le'ale'a!*

Plans for a delightful evening at our Ninth Annual Survivors' Banquet are well under way. The gala occasion is March 31 in the Exhibition Hall, Seattle Center, with Altitude hour from 6-7 pm, the Banquet at 7, and Exotic Entertainment following.

The theme is Polynesian this year as you may have guessed. The Banquet Chairperson Helen Wasson has promised that we shall have an excellent choice of foods with a Polynesian flair at the buffet and a full hour's entertainment that she feels will delight all that will attend. The whole idea is for a relaxing evening with good fun, good food, good entertainment, and good friends. Come in Polynesian attire (moo-moo, wow-wow) or as you want, so long as you are comfy. This is especially for you men, so get out that loud shirt someone gave you for Christmas and throw away the coat and tie. We'll see you there.

For your convenience, order cards are enclosed with Spore-prints. Tickets (\$8.00 each) will be sold at the February meeting (no meeting in March). Or sent mail orders to Helen Wasson, 16545 Des Moines Way S., Seattle 98148. For phone orders or questions call Belle Swaffield at CH4-2559. Don't delay! Aloha!

* This translates from Hawaiian as: Alert!, Action! Action! Action!, Much delicious Food, and, Much Fun!



Survivors' Banquet March 31





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	Charles Woodruff	Vice Pres
	Helen Wasson	Treasurer
	Helen Hewitt	Secretary

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ALTERNATES Cliff Carpetner, Virginia Kessner, Charles Kessner.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz



membership meeting

Monday, February 12, 1973, 8:00 pm, Eames Theater, Pacific Science Center.

Scares! Chills! Screams of Terror! It's time for our Mycological Horror Show. This is no reflection on the speaker, Dr. Lester W. Mittelstaedt, who is the most charming and personable Seattle physician and allergy specialist ever. But his topic: The Hazards of Mushroom Poisoning, is guaranteed to make you shudder. This is a meeting you really cannot afford to miss; it may mean a lot to you, sooner or later, especially if you don't go.

The cartoon from Medical Tribune, 11-29-72, is to get you in the mood.

Don't forget that there is no regular membership meeting in March. The Banquet (Annual Survivors') should provide more than enough festivities for the entire month and then some.



THE CASE OF THE TWO YEAR BOARD SESSION

The Board took care of two months of business at one blow. Due to the complexities of Board Meetings, which our Secretary could explain better than our editor (obviously), the Nominating Committee for 1973 officers and trustees was confirmed after they had already made massive inroads into gathering nominees. This action completed the acts of 1972, and the Board plunged into 1973. The number of paid members so far was mentioned (476); it is now 514 (or was when this was written). Book sales march on, banquet plans were opened and discussed, a sound letter from Milt Grout was read, and the board was asked (one by one) if it would care to run again.

CALENDAR

Feb. 12	Monday	8:00 pm	Membership meeting
Feb. 19	Monday	8:00 pm	Board meeting
Feb. 23	Sporeprints news deadline. We really mean it, now: 4029 E. Madison, Seattle 98102		
Mar. 12	No regular membership meeting at all. Go to the Annual Survivors' Banquet (below.)		
Mar. 19	Monday	8:00 pm	Board meeting
Mar. 31	Saturday	6:00 pm	Survivors' Banquet
Apr. 9	Monday	8:00 pm	Membership meeting

FINAL NOTICE

If you didn't get a Sporeprints this month you have not paid your dues. The deadline was January 31, 1973. Of course, if you didn't get a Sporeprints this month you have no way of reading this notice. Heh-heh. Eat your heart out.



More Food Through Chemicals



Verpa bohemica

By Irene

A simple organic substance, gibberelline (an extract of the mushroom, *Gibberella fujikuroi*), was found to have an unusual growth-stimulating action upon various fruits and garden vegetables. After applications of this chemical, fruit grows to quadruple in size and sometimes even larger. Agricultural research laboratories in West Germany at the University of Bonn, at Giessen, Völkendorf, and Hohenheim, report excellent results with gibberelline and similar plant growth-stimulators. This may be a solution to the world's shortage of food, especially in view of the constantly growing world population.

From JAMA, V. 220, p. 1590, 6-12-72 from Dr. Mittelstaedt. Gardeners can now use mushroom mulch, it seems.

GROAN OF THE DAY DEPARTMENT

"That's one Helvella of a story, Mr. Gigas. I think there's a Morel to it, but I'm not at all sure that I Bolete you."

(The name of the author has been withheld at his request, and for obvious reasons.)

This article, entitled "Matriculating Mycologists", appeared in its entirety in Age of Achievement, Nov., 1972, and came to us via Connie Calvert. The group found about 500 different species, but apparently they didn't have a potluck. The O'Connors and George Rafanelli are PSMS members. Here's George. ↓

As surely as the fall rains bring out the mushrooms, the intrepid hunter of the wild mushroom will begin his trek through the forests of the Northwest. This past month, one hundred and twelve novice "mushroomers" gathered at the Lake Quinault Lodge on the Olympic Peninsula for a three day seminar on the wild mushrooms of the Olympic Rain Forests.

Sparked by KVI's Bob Hardwick, "The Wild Mushroom Seminar" featured such notable mushroomers as Professor Lynn Brady of the University of Washington Pharmacology Department, Dr. Angelo Pellegrini (author of "The Unprejudiced Palate") and "Wine and the Good Life") as gourmet mushroom chef and Bill and Irene O'Conner, 25-year residents of the Olympic Rain Forests and devoted mushroomers.

The seminar consisted of class-work, lectures and study of the different species of mushrooms, identification and collection methods and two full afternoons of tramping the woods in search of



the delicacy. The weather was cool, clear and damp and the hunters were rewarded with a bountiful harvest of many different varieties native to the area.

As the O'Connors and Professor Brady instructed, George Ramanelli, a practicing mycologist with 45 years' experience, helped the hunters with their identification and naming of mushrooms. He set up the mushroom display in the lobby of Lake Quinault Lodge for visiting spectators. Meanwhile, Dr.

FOLLOWING THE ELECTION TRAIL

Elections are an annual event with PSMS, with nominations closing at the February meeting and the new officials announced at the Annual Survivors' Banquet. The Nominating Committee for this year consists of Vic Nendza (Chairman), Emory Bronner, Doug Carmichael, Brian Luther, Bronner, Doug Carmichael, Rita Finkel, Brian Luther, and Lyle McKnight. And we would like to say that the Committee has done an absolutely brilliant job of contacting the membership of PSMS to encourage nominations. So far nominees include: (N-now serving in this office)

President: Howard Melsen-N, CHAS. WOODRUFF

Vice President: Phil Roger, Fred Wasson

Treasurer: Helen Wasson-N

Secretary: ~~Helen Howitt-N~~, Doris Paduano

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Helena Kirkwood

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Phyllis McGary

Lyle C. McKnight

Irene Nelson

Ed Nicholas

John Orth

~~Dr. Catherine K. Owen~~

Martin J. Owens

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Roland Pearson

Harold D. Phillips

Bill Pollard

Dee Poole-N

Virginia Priem

Henry J. Regeth

Judy Roger

Helen Russell

Brian C. Scheuch

Fred Smethurst

David H. Spath

Everett W. Peavey

Roy Treadway

Thomas E. Ulmer

Fred Wasson

As you can see, there aren't a whole lot of carry-overs from last year, some because we limit trustees to two consecutive terms in one position, and some because of limited time, etc.

Your last chance to become a nominee or re-nominee is the February meeting. You may nominate anyone, with their permission, of course.

Candidates are asked to submit a less-than-fifty-word biographical sketch and a snapshot of self at the February meeting if not sooner so the voters can read and see what they're getting themselves into. For those that do not have photos, Harley Perkins will be at the February meeting with an instant picture-taker to shoot you. With such a large membership, some of which are totally new, this is important.

Photos and biographical sketches will be mailed to you for your vote. Don't forget; vote.

Pellegrini took over the kitchens of the lodge and put his gourmet abilities to work on the forest harvest. Each meal featured mushrooms prepared in a different manner, so the embryo mycologists were able to taste their bounty as properly prepared for eating. They were able to sample many different types of mushrooms in as many different dishes from sauces to pickled hors d'ouvres; from stuffed meadow mushrooms to pan-fried boletas.



TOADS, MUSHROOMS, AND SCHIZOPHRENIA

This is an excerpt from an article with the above name by Howard D. Fabing, M.D., and published in the May, 1957 issue of Harper's Magazine.

We do not advocate the ingestion of either toads or the mushrooms mentioned. Caveat Gustator.

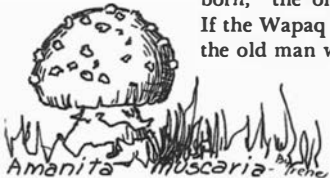
MUSHROOM ORGIES

ONE of the indole compounds which has come under scrutiny in the last four years is, bufotenine. It gets its name from the toad, *Bufo bufo* in Latin. Bufotenine is found in the skin and the salivary glands of poisonous toads—ingredients no self-respecting medieval Italian poisoner would have left out of his brew. In more recent years, this toxic indole has turned up in three other places: in the seeds of a bushy little South American tree, in certain mushrooms, and in the urine of normal human beings. In humans the amount is so tiny that the most sensitive kinds of analytical chemical gadgets are needed to find it, but enough seems to be present to make investigators believe that *homo sapiens* is capable of making it in the chemical factory which is his body.

Bufotenine in certain mushrooms of the amanita family was discovered in 1953 by two German chemists. The botanical names for these mushrooms are *Amanita muscaria*, *A. pantherina*, and *A. mappa*. Of the three the muscaria species—which Walt Disney pictured in the Dance of the Mushrooms in "Fantasia"—is the most common. This beautiful small fungus, crowned by a vivid red cap dotted with white spots, is named after *musca domestica*; Latin for the ordinary housefly; and it has been around a long time. In the thirteenth century Albertus Magnus noted that when it was freshly cut and placed in a dish of milk or water it killed flies when they ingested its juice, and Linnaeus reported that it had been advocated for killing bedbugs. (Strangely enough, the chemical formulas of bufotenine and the DDT family of things which we now use for insect extermination are not greatly different.) It has also had another, more interesting human use.

As far back as anyone cares to guess, this mushroom has been eaten orgiastically by Siberian tribes of the Kamchatka peninsula. George Kennan, the great-uncle and namesake of our recent Ambassador to Russia, wrote in 1870 in *Tent Life in Siberia*, that it was so highly prized by these nomads that they would swap a reindeer for a "dose."

Prodigious feats of physical strength have been reported under its influence. The myths of the Koryaks contain the belief—held to this day—that a person affected with muscaria is guided by the spirits of the Wapaq which live in the mushrooms. According to this belief, if an old man eats muscaria and the Wapaq within the mushroom whispers to him, "You have just been born," the old man begins to cry like a baby. If the Wapaq should say, "Go to the afterworld," the old man would die.



mystery mushroom



On this fat boy of the forest, the whitish spores are carried on the outside of the wrinkled, golden-brown cap. The cap's convoluted folds, which are attached only at top center, flop low enough to almost cover the thick white stipe. Never to be sampled raw, this large (4"-9" across), heavy (1-2 lbs.) species may be sampled with caution if parboiled (and water discarded), rinsed, and cooked thoroughly.* Said to be excellent, this is probably the safest member of an untrustworthy family. Look for it at the edge of melting snowbanks in conifer woodlands from now until early summer.

Answers: *Cyromitra gigas*, also known as *Helvella gigas*. The "Giant Helvella." McKenny/Stuntz p.198.

*Some people, after trying the species parboiled, go on and try it cooked without parboiling. Caveat gustator.

AUTHOR WANTED

This can be an aspiring author or otherwise. No pay; glory only. To write up a *Mycologist* of the month somewhat similar to the one that appeared in May 1972 *Sporeprints*. Must also dredge up reproducible photo or drawing of same. We know who the mycologist is. Can you write him up? Call Auriel Harris at TR 8-2286 for assignment. You'll like it.

If you don't want to write for *Sporeprints*, don't forget that mushroom clippings, recipes, photos, cartoons, and items of such ilk are more than welcome—also drawings. Mail to *Sporeprints*, 4029 E. Madison, Seattle 98102.