

SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109

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TOLT RIVER COUNTY PARK FIELDTRIP REPORT H.R.H.

If attendance indicates that a fieldtrip was successful, then the March 25 outing at the Tolt River County Park in which 76 plus two infants participated must be called a success. Most of the participants were newcomers out for the very first time. When Monte and I arrived at the park at 8:04 am there were 5 cars parked there, but only two were mushroomers, the rest were optimistic steelhead fishermen.

By 9 o'clock approximately 20 persons had arrived, and after giving the group a lecture and illustration on cotton woods, etc., Monte and the "troops" started out into the field.

More and more persons arrived, and about 10 o'clock Louise Rautenberg gave a lecture to another good-sized group and they went hunting.

About 11:30 Monte took out another group. All the time in between, some eager mushroomers did not want to wait for a new group to form, and they took off on their own, with "proper" instructions from camp.

All participants found some Verpa bohemica. Harold and JoAnn Wright had the prize find: a dozen beautiful (and some big) Morchella esculenta, growing under a cottonwood tree. They donated a specimen to the study of the Morel Committee, since George Rafanelli was surprised to see Morchellas in this area and at this early time of year. A total of 14 species were identified by George.

But a hearty thank you goes to Monte and Louise who did yeoman's duty in getting all the novices to find some Verpas under all those cottonwood leaves. And in addition, congratulations to Louise for overcoming her hesitation about crossing the suspension bridge. She did it several times.

The park manager, Karl Kost, came by about noon and lingered on for quite a while trying to learn as much about mushrooms as possible, and he invited PSMS to come back to the park soon.

It rained all day long, but this did not dampen the enthusiasm of any of the newcomers, and yours truly kept them supplied with hot coffee, cookies, and lots of encouragement.

The Tolt River County Park is now known as the Mac Donald Park in honor of the Scout leader who supervised the building of the suspension bridge and who died shortly afterwards.

BANQUET REPORT Louise Rautenberg

It was an unforgettable evening, on March 11, 1978, when our members attended the Fourteenth Annual Survivors' Banquet at the Sand Point Officers Club. It was enjoyable to be on the hostess end, along with Winston and Laurel Hufford. There were quite a few of us who belonged strictly to the U.S.A., including early America and even Paul Revere. Some of you put a great deal of effort into your costumes and outfits, and it really made for a great evening.

I wish I had made notes as to all the different countries that were represented. The prize for the best and most authentic costume went to Mrs. Gerard Barta. She was dressed in a very lovely and elaborate costume, very genuine from the old country of Czechoslovakia. The prize for the most original costume went to Mitch McGuinness, who was a green Irish Shamrock and his partner, Jennifer Jones, in an Arabic

belly dancer's dress. (The M.C. was hesitant about asking her to perform). The prize for "most far out" costume, went to Bob Reed, who was a headless horseman in the days of Paul Revere. There also was a genuine dress from Russia with a peasant blouse and high boots, worn by Doris Riswold. And Judy Cox from Germany (married to a genuine Texan) with the proper accent and all, wore a very lovely, complete German dirndl.

The tables were very colorful with arrangements made by two very talented ladies - Dorothea Schutt and Beatrice Avery. The arrangements consisted of different kinds of mushrooms and were very colorful; they were very imaginative and artistically arranged on pieces of driftwood. Among the mushrooms were minute flowers and moss. The flags of many different countries were made by the students of Stan March, and also the decorating committee. Edna Torneby made the placecards in colors with the world.

The food was especially exquisite this year, and very well handled by the club as a smorgasbord. We had Sauerbraten, Hawaiian chicken, and Beef Continental; also a marvelous hot dish with mushrooms, tomatoes and zucchini. I don't know what else our chef had in it, but everyone raved about it. There was a tossed green salad, a large bowl of marinated mushrooms, which I believe, was the only dish we ran out of.

On the buffet table were ambrosia, carrot and raisin salad, rice, and other assorted accompaniments. We ended our repast with German chocolate cake. The common opinion was that the chef, and the club and all its helpers did an outstanding job in seeing that we were nourished with a delicious dinner. Many thanks to all of them.

The music by Joe Farmer was super and very well received. The only drawback that took me and a few others by surprise was a very small dance floor. The music was so great that we soon forgot about this. Even those who did not dance, thoroughly enjoyed listening to the good music.

I would particularly like to thank Sally Ann Hansen for handling the ticket sales. She did a great job. And last, but by no means least, I wish to thank my husband, Carl Rautenberg for turning out as a very capable Master of Ceremonies (even though he did not clear his jokes with me first).

Thank you very much - all my committee members and advisors, and all members of PSMS, who made the evening, "Your Heritage in Costume" a success. It was fun.

BITS AND PIECES

Did you know that a new store, called TRUFFLES, recently advertised its grand-opening. They are located close to the University Village shopping area. Have not yet stopped by.

.... The French Institute of Agronomy has obtained a patent for the growing of Truffles. They injected a special chemical into the roots of hazel bushes and then waited 3-1/2 years before they got a single truffle. In the wild it takes 6 years for a truffle to mature.

200 persons turned out for the recent beginning mushroom class offered by the Colorado Mycological Society. They were glad they had a large hall. It also shows the growing interest in mycology everywhere.



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March (885-0375)

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

Membership Meeting

Monday, April 10, 1978, 8:00 pm., Eames Theater
The Pacific Science Center

Program: Mr. Charles Raines, of the Sierra Club, will dis-
cuss the Cougar Lakes Wilderness Proposal. The U.S. Forest
Service has proposed a Wilderness between Chinook and
White Passes which would protect the land in its present na-
tural state and would allow hunting, fishing, hiking, wild-
life habitat and watershed protection; but which would pro-
hibit road building and timber harvesting.
Several conservation groups feel the USFS has left out many
valuable, pristine areas, which have magnificent scenery,
significant wildlife and botanical values, and many are
easily accessible. They need wilderness protection to insure
their continued existence in a natural state.

BOARD NEWS

H. R. H.

The first Board meeting of the new administration was well
attended (only one Trustee was absent). The minutes of the
February Board meeting (which however was not a bona-fide
board meeting, since a quorum was lacking) were accepted
as presented.

As the first order of business, President Schmitt made com-
mittee assignments, which will be presented separately be-
low. Also the President solicited nominations for the posi-
tion of vice-president. After some discussion, Carl Herman-
son withdrew his nomination, and Rick White was elected by
the Board.

The topic of the PSMS library was brought up, especially in
regard to its accessibility for the members. A committee,
chaired by Carl Hermanson (who recently inventoried the
holdings) will formulate a plan and report to the Board. The
committee will also decide how to inform the membership
about the library holdings, whether the inventory will be
presented in Spore Prints or as a handout to the members.
Winston Hufford, who will continue as Chairman of the Ex-
hibit, wanted to go on record and inform the membership
that sales of arts and crafts items is prohibited by Science
Center by-laws. A committee was formed that is studying
whether arts and crafts items by our members can be incorpo-
rated into the Show in the form of a contest or exhibition.
For suggestions, please contact Winston.

One of the first tasks facing our treasurer and the Board is
the sizable increase in the premium for liability insurance
which PSMS took out last year, as protection against law-
suits which might arise because of misidentification of fungi
at fieldtrips, etc.

Publicity Chairman, Marlene Friend, asked for the Board's
permission to include information about PSMS monthly mem-
bership meetings in local news media, which was granted.
Marlene also suggested that PSMS might participate in the
University District Street Fair in May. Jack Orth brought up
the matter of PSMS participation (in co-operation with the
Tacoma Club) at the Puyallup Fair this fall. No decision was
made on either matter.

Any member wanting to purchase mycological books at the
monthly membership meetings should call our Book Sales
Chairman, Helen Wasson (phone 243-6173) BEFORE the
monthly meeting, and Helen will bring the books. Remem-
ber there is a discount on books sold to members.

Louise Rautenberg gave a report on the 1978 Survivors' Ban-
quet. Subtracting the \$1,296.13 expenditures from the

— continued on next page —

Calendar

April 10 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

April 15 & 16 Spring Educational Foray to Thunderbird Park

April 17 Monday, Board Meeting, 8:00 pm

April 21 Deadline for Spore Print material. Send all
articles, art work, and photos, to the Editor,
2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115.

May 6 & 7 Tentative date for a fieldtrip. Location to be
announced.

May 8 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

SPRING EDUCATIONAL FORAY

April 15 & 16 Thunderbird Park - five miles east of Monroe
on the south side of the Skykomish River on
the Ben Howard Road.

This is a private campground with a shelter,
showers with hot and cold running water,
hook-ups with water, sewer and electricity
for the usual fee. There also is a charge for
people staying for a day.
Be sure you cross the river in Monroe.

There will be a potluck on Saturday. The educational pro-
gram of the foray had not been finalized at this time. Usual-
ly it includes a lecture on Saturday evening. For details
call the educational committee members.

\$1,062.00 left a smaller deficit that the Board had authorized prior to the Banquet. Louise's excellent report appears elsewhere.

Ed Cantelon presented the Board with the formal election results, including the ballots in a sealed envelope. Ed asked all Board members to attend the April membership meeting so that they can be presented to the general membership. Ken Chaplin resigned from the Board. He and Emma have put their house in Renton up for sale, and plan to move to sunny Sequim. Hope we see you at meetings and fieldtrips. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

NEWS FROM THE FEBRUARY NON-BOARD MEETING

The members present discussed the amount of scholarship funds to be awarded to Dr. Stuntz' students. It was decided to get phone-approval from the missing Board members and make two \$300 scholarships available. They are to be awarded by Dr. Stuntz. The members present discussed ideas of possible gifts to Dr. Stuntz, for all he is doing for PSMS and without whom PSMS would not be the prestigious Society it is today.

A check for \$1500 was sent to the Pacific Science Center for the use of their facilities by PSMS. This sum was agreed upon between PSMS and the Director of the Science Center for 1977. This did not include the Annual Exhibit, for which a separate financial arrangement exists.

PSMS received the book Answers to your Mushroom Questions plus Recipes by Donna Myer. The author (with permission) had borrowed some of the Society's recipes.

Radio station KRAB sent a notice to PSMS that it would include information about PSMS activities in its community calendar. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1978 AND CHAIRMEN

Annual Exhibit : Winston Hufford; Assistant Rick White.
Annual Banquet : Margo Harrison; and Margaret Holzbauer and Marlene Friend

Book Sales : Helen Wasson

Education : Jack Orth; and Milton Grout, Scott Chilton
Earl Harrison

Field Trips : Dick Sieger; and Dave Schmitt
Historian : Margaret Holzbauer; and Lom Nee Tuai March

House : Paul Jones; and Buzz Walters

Library : Carl Hermanson, and Ben Woo

Mailing: Charles and Virginia Kessner

Meeting Programs : Rick White.

Membership : Joy McKnight

Photography : Ed Cantelon

Planning : Howard Melsen

Publicity : Marlene Friend

Publications : Bob Hanna

Spore Prints : Hildegard Hendrickson, and Agnes Sieger.

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS, H.R.H.

Remember to call Helen Wasson (phone 243-6173) BEFORE the next membership meeting (and before any membership meeting) if you want to purchase books. You get a discount as a member of PSMS.

Due to her recent illness, Jennie Schmitt's presidential message will appear in the next issue. She wants to thank all who voted for her.

The Shoreline School District asked PSMS to be put on our mailing list so that they will receive Spore Prints on a regular basis, to be placed in the library.

JACK ORTH'S BANQUET COMMENTS

One hundred and thirty-nine members and guests attended our 14th Annual Survivors' Banquet held at the Sand Point Officers Club. In this very suitable and agreeable setting on Lake Washington, with easy parking, we were nicely and well served at a good bar, prior to the banquet.

Carl Rautenberg was the M.C., and we all enjoyed his witty comments and professional delivery. Louise, of course, is a top-notch organizer. Also her table settings aroused plaudits.

Guests at the speaker's table were Ed and Ella Cantelon, Monte and Hildegard Hendrickson, Professor Stuntz and his student, Gustavo Excoabar and wife Maria (Susan Libonati-Barnes was unable to attend) and of course, the Orths and Rautenbergs completed the table.

The dinner couldn't have been better - remember?

Elections Chairman, Ed Cantelon, presented the new Board members. We cannot give enough credit to Ed and Ella for the numerous and excellent jobs they have done for our Society.

The two named students of Professor Stuntz were presented with \$300 checks to help further their studies in Mycology - perhaps they will give us a talk on their specialty at a future general meeting?

After the dinner we enjoyed an excellent dance band on a rather too small dance floor, but nevertheless, many of the members showed their dancing skills to the enjoyment of the others. See Louise's report for the fitting climax to this excellent banquet.

(Carl and Louise can make either the Sand Point facilities or the Pier 91 facilities available for future banquets. Any feedback should be reported to the new banquet chairman, Margo Harrison).

1978 NAMA FORAYS from the Mycophile

The dates for the 1978 NAMA Forays have been set. The Scandinavian Foray will take place August 3 - 21, 1978 will visit Sweden and Finland. Foray mycologist is Dr. Orson K. Miller, Jr. Cost of the tour is \$1,449 from New York.

The NAMA National Foray will be held on the week-end of November 23 - 26, 1978 at Camp Gualala in Northern California. The Mycological Society of San Francisco will be the host.

To participate in either of the above forays, you must be a member of NAMA. For membership information you may call on your Board.

WYOMING MYCOLOGY COURSE

The Grand Teton Environmental Education Center announces a five day course in Mycology conducted by Dr. Kent McKnight, USDA on August 14 through 18, 1978. For more information contact Ms. Judith den Boer, Teton Science School, P.O.Box 68, Kelly, Wyoming, 83011.

Summer Seminars on other subjects (Teton Wildlife; Earthquakes and Volcanos; Vascular Flora of Grand Teton; Animal Behavior; and many more) are given throughout the summer months.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Scott Haeger (675-4582); Larry G. Irwin (454-9124); Melodie & Kenneth Martin (322-0421); John Lockwood & Helen Maynard (522-4640); William & Shirley Stewart (631-1941); Alan & Laura Veigel (329-6595); Stanley & Mary Ellen Whitehead (242-1689)

MUSHROOMS WITH ODORS

The Taxonomy Group of the Mycological Society of San Francisco (R.D.Mackler, D.Orr and P. Vergeer) have compiled a list of mushrooms which have distinct odors. With the minimal time and effort it takes to smell a specimen, you can add an impressive number of mushrooms to your list of positively identified species. There is a problem of subjectivity when it comes to describing experiences of the senses. Just as we sometimes argue about a color being red rather than orange, we might also have trouble with Agaricus augustus which we in the Northwest say, smells like almonds.

Unlike the color charts available for botanical identification there is no readily available standard for odors! Our experience indicates that most people can reach agreement on odors as described in reference books. Therefore, what the beginner should automatically do, is smell each specimen in the field and then consult a handbook to see if he/she can match the smell with the data on a given species.

Not all aromatic mushrooms smell when dried. Therefore, it is important to use fresh specimens. It is also recommended that you crush the specimen to release the fragrance. Some species only become aromatic by crushing. Good smelling!

GROUP I : AGREEABLE ODORS

Agaricus arvensis anise
Agaricus augustus anise
Armillaria olida potatoes, cucumber
Armillaria ponderosa spicy, allspice, resin
Cantharellus cibarius apricot
Clitocybe fragrans anise
Clitocybe gibba slightly fragrant; anise
Clitocybe (Lepista) nuda fragrant; faintly perfumy
Clitocybe odora anise
Clitocybe suaveolens anise
Cortinarius traganus fruity, pear
Hebeloma crustuliniforme radish
Hygrophorus agathosmus almond
Hygrophorus bakerensis almond
Hygrophorus pudorinus faintly fragrant
Hygrophorus russocoriaceus cedar wood; Russian Leather
Hygrophorus saxatilis dried peaches
Hydnellum diabolus perfume
Hydnellum suaveolens fragrant
Inocybe pyriodora pear
Inocybe sororia green corn
Lactarius camphoratus clover, maple syrup
Marasmius alliaceus onion
Marasmius scorodionius garlic
Mycena pura radish
Ramaria gelatinosa tobacco
Ramaria obtusissima anise
Russula fragrantissima bitter almonds, complex
Russula pelargoniana geranium
Suillus pungens aromatic (some dislike it)

GROUP II : NOT AGREEABLE ODORS

Agaricus hondensis creosote
Agaricus placomyces creosote
Amanita chlorinosma Chlorine
Amanita phalloides bad potatoes
Amanita strobiliformis chlorine
Clathrus spp. fetid
Clitocybe nebularis skunk cabbage
Clitopilus prunulus odor of fresh meal

Cortinarius camphoratus fetid
Hygrophorus foetens fetid
Lactarius helvus camphor
Lepiota cristata fishy
Lycoperdon foetidum fetid
Lysurus borealis fetid
Marasmius foetidus fetid
Mutinus caninus fetid
Mycena alcalina chlorox
Phallus spp. fetid
Pleurotus elongatipes rotten cucumber
Phyllotopsis nidulans sulphureous
Russula xerampelina fishy
Tricholoma saponaceum soapy
Tricholoma sulphureum sulphur

WHAT HAPPENS ON A FIELDTRIP

Monte H.

Due to the many calls received in the past few days, particularly from new PSMS members, we are outlining what happens on a fieldtrip. "Old" members bear with us, even if you have read this article before. But we forget so soon, that we too, were newcomers at one time.

First of all, the fieldtrips are very informal (except educational forays). Come and go when you please. Many members and their guests with recreational vehicles, tents, etc. arrive Friday evening and stay till Sunday afternoon (or longer). Some people come for one day only, Saturday or Sunday. (We recommend the Saturday for better prospects for hunting and the potluck).

When you arrive at the destination, a host and hostess welcome you with coffee and cookies. Everybody should upon arriving sign the Fieldtrip Attendance Register and indicate whether they plan to stay for the potluck. It also helps us to find out if the chosen sites are desirable and/or convenient (for scheduling future fieldtrips).

It is recommended that newcomers arrive before 11 AM since experienced members always are ready and willing to take newcomers in tow.

It has recently been suggested that groups should leave the fieldtrip site at 9, at 10 and at 11, so that newcomers can plan on having a guide. If you arrive later than 11 AM, the hosts can tell you approximately where you most likely will find the mushroom(s) of the day, but you will be on your own.

On a fieldtrip, participants are encouraged to bring in every different mushroom that they find, because an expert will identify them all (and you can then go back and pick the ones you left, if they are worthwhile ones). But most of all, you add to your knowledge about fungi by seeing, feeling, smelling and tasting the many specimens which your fellow PSMS members have brought in.

After a good (or bad) day of collecting, you return to the fieldtrip site, tired, and eagerly await the delicious potluck dinner. Every fieldtrip participant contributes a dish. it can be a hot dish, a salad, a dessert (enough to feed the contributors' own family). Every dish in the potluck is gourmet, since every cook brings her (his) favorite recipe (patented, of course). After dinner we sit around the camp - fire, tell mushroom- and other tales, and enjoy great fellowship.

The sites chosen for fieldtrips accommodate recreational vehicles, tents, etc. and have the necessary facilities.

We hope this article has answered many questions for new members, and that they are assured that they are welcome on fieldtrips. You don't know what you miss.