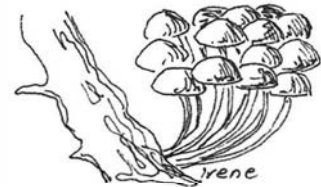


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2559 NE 96th, Seattle, Washington, 98115

November 1983

Number 196



WILD MUSHROOM DISPLAY LIES DORMANT FOR ANOTHER YEAR

Dennis Bowman

With a flurry of activity that made me dizzy, I watched as our mushroom exhibit sprang back into the assorted boxes and bags in which it had been delivered. The dumpsters were full of trees, moss, and fungi, and at 8 pm I was standing in the center of a spotless auditorium listening to the echo of my voice. The Show was over!

On behalf of the general membership I want to extend my compliments to the thirty chairpersons who along with their back-up and support teams made the Show physically happen. They made the Exhibit truly mushroom. This year's outstanding display drew endless amounts of compliments from our visitors. The fungi display provided a beautifully choreographed high-speed tour of the fields and forests of the Pacific Northwest. Where else could one go to see 336 species of fungi which usually fruit from sea level to high altitudes, from city lots to upland meadows. All this could be accomplished by walking less than 500 feet along our display tables. And on top of that, all mushrooms were identified, and ready for inspection and study.

My thanks go to all who made the 1983 Exhibit happen! And I want to invite all those who could not participate this year to make next year's Show a high priority on their calendars. You might even find a secret spot telling you where to find the choice specimens, but most of all, you will have the good feeling, of a job well done.

MUSHROOM STATISTICS OF THE 1983 EXHIBIT

Labeling Committee - Helena Kirkwood

This year 336 species were exhibited. This compares to 321 species in 1982; 319 in 1981; and 322 in 1980. In 1979 (a very dry year) only 257 species were displayed. The official count for 1983 is

Agaricaceae (gilled fungi)	222	species
Boletaceae-(tube fungi)	17	"
Cantharellaceae	8	"
Clavariaceae	16	"
Hydnaceae	17	"
Gasteromycetes	16	"
Polyporaceae	23	"
Tremellaceae	1	"
Ascomycetes	16	"

Genera with 8 or more species displayed were:

Agaricus	8	species	Russula	15	species
Amanita	8	"	Tricholoma	15	"
Cortinarius	26	"	Boletus	9	"
Hygrophorus	18	"	Ramaria	10	"
Lactarius	12				

JUST A WORD OF THANKS

Margaret Dilly

A special thanks to all who assisted this year to put together an unusually efficient, and especially attractive display. The cooperation was magnificent, beginning with those who

collected so selectively and used care to keep collections separated, and in very good shape. The coordination between Identification, Labeling & Arrangement Committees was gratifying, and greatly appreciated.

More species than usual were identified this year due to the concerted efforts of all you who sorted and labeled all the fungi on display. The trays were well arranged and very eye appealing, thanks to the extra attention given them by you tray arrangers.

A great job was done by you fellows who carried trays and who saw to it that they were properly displayed for the public. A special thanks to Gary Lundren who carried at least 70% of the load himself. (How about more help next year by some of you newer members?)

Everyone on the labeling crew did a superb job, particularly in light of system changes this year.

Many compliments on your accomplishments were expressed and I personally felt this was one of our best efforts, if not the very best. I feel fortunate for the experience of working with such a fine group of people and want to express my personal thanks to each and everyone involved for a job well done.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PROGRAM FOR THE DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING Ed & Ella Cantelon

By tradition, our December meeting is a social evening. The membership provides slides to be shown, and refreshments to be consumed. The Society provides white table covers, coffee tea, and a festive atmosphere.

This year we celebrate our 20th anniversary as an organization. It was in December 1963, that Dr. Dixy Lee Ray, who was director of the Pacific Science Center (which evolved after the close of the 1962 Worlds Fair) suggested to Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz and Margaret McKenny, that some sort of mycological society be formed to help fill the void at the Science Center. We can now look back on 20-productive years and see how fruitful that suggestion has been.

For the December meeting, we solicit 35 mm slides from the membership. In past years, we have found that from 1 to 15 slides per person will keep that portion of the program within proper time limit. We stress that this is not a contest. The subject is of your own choosing - it need not be mushrooms. For those members who may have prints they wish to show, a table will be provided.

By December, the mushrooms will have gone into hibernation and we will need something to fill up the tables we usually provide for mushroom identification. If everyone who can, will bring a lot of cookies, we will fill those tables, and not miss the mushrooms too much. Ella will coordinate the refreshments.

If you have slides to show, please call me at 242-6115 so that I may expedite the presentation in December. (Attention newcomers and beginners: Be sure to come to this meeting, get acquainted and have a good time.-Monte)



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Spore
Prints

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Hendrickson (2); Charlotte Turner-Zila (1).

ALTERNATES: Edward Bush; Sally Ann Hansen; Ron Skoor.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Carl Hermanson

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER: Dr. Joseph Ammirati

Calendar

Nov. 14 Monday, 6:45 Beginners' Class
8:00 pm, Membership Meeting

Nov. 21 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

Nov. 25 Deadline for Spore Prints Material. Send all material to 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115

Dec. 12 Monday, 6:45 Beginners' Class
8:00 pm, Membership Meeting

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS: The names and phone numbers of our new members are included in this mailing of Spore Prints. Please check your number and let the Society know if there is an error in the spelling of your name or in your phone number.

IS THIS THE LONGEST MUSHROOM FORAY?

Elsie Burkman, PSMS Charter Member #7 traveled 14, 125 mi. in 3 months last summer, through 11 Canadian provinces, one French colony, and 7 American states. She found meadow mushrooms in Alberta, Gypsies in Saskatchewan, Shaggy Manes in Quebec, Fairy Rings in Ontario, and Chanterelles in Newfoundland and Minnesota. Morels showed up in August on the Hudson Bay. But it was not all mushrooms on the trip. She found little rhododendrons only 2 inches high, and saw the wales frolicing in the Churchill River. She enjoyed her lobster feast on Prince Edward Island. It was quite a trip!

Membership Meeting

Monday, November 14, 1983, 8:00 pm in the auditorium of the MONROE CENTER, 1810 N.W. 65th Street, Seattle

Program: "Fungi of Grant County" is the topic of the slide-illustrated lecture chosen by Steve Rehner. Steve is a doctoral student in mycology at the UW. For his Master's Thesis he had studied the fungi associated with the dry lands and willow plant communities. We are privileged to share in the findings. We will be surprised how many fungi grow in what we all consider the "dry" part of our state.

BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

Since the board meeting was held the day after the Show, a great deal of the discussions related to the Exhibit. The overall consensus was that we had one of the most attractive Exhibits ever. Attendance by the public was not as high; maybe the competition from the Huskies and Seahawks, as well as the final games of the World Series were too strong. But, it was reported that those who attended the Show seemed more interested and knowledgeable. This showed up in book sales also. Judi reported that many attendees came to purchase their second mushroom book. A survey was taken as to how the attendees had heard about the Show, so that we might focus our publicity in this direction. In order of frequency it was newspapers, our posters, word-of-mouth, radio and TV. New memberships are about the same as the past few years, which is a further indication that those people really interested in mushrooms, found out about our Show and made sure they came. On Monday, Oct. 24th a meeting was held to evaluate the technical parts of the Show, and set the dates for next year.

On Sunday, Oct. 16th a beautiful show on mushrooms was televised on Channel 9. We are trying to get permission to use this show for a membership meeting.

At this time no member has volunteered to take on the chairmanship of the Survivors' Banquet, and time is moving on. The Board feels, we have three options: (1) do 100% of the work ourselves; (2) hold it at the Monroe Center, but have the food catered; (3) have the whole affair catered. President Grout would appreciate feedback from the membership. (His phone number is 747-0497)

The topic of whether PSMS should become an affiliated member of NAMA was brought up. No decision was made at this meeting.

PSMS made a donation to the Cancer Society in the name of long-time member Fay Melsen.

The President is making sure that PSMS has the whole auditorium available for membership meetings, as per our agreement with the Monroe Center.

REQUEST FOR BASKET DESIGN

Last month we reported about PSMS members Fran & Lee Lancaster serving in the Peace Corps in the West Indies. They are asking for suggestions for the "perfect mushroom basket" since the St. Lucians are masters at making baskets, and such a product might produce an export product for the island. Send suggestions to the Editor of Spore Prints.

IN MEMORIAM JULIUS WALTER BUTTKUS

Word just reached us that long-time (since 1969) PSMS member Julius Walter Buttkus (born in Mamel, Lithuania) died September 15, 1983. Our sympathy goes to his widow Kathleen and son and daughter.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO LAKE WENATCHEE
STATE PARK Margaret Holzbauer

Thirty-one people attended the October 1 & 2 field trip to Lake Wenatchee State Park, and were rewarded with fall color that was a feast for eyes, beautiful weather, and moderate quantities of edible fungi in the form of chanterelles, both yellow and white, shaggy manes, Boletus edulis, and a variety of Suillus species. Twenty-one hungry hunters stayed for a memorable potluck supper. Margaret Holzbauer and Bob Hanna acted as hosts, with welcome assistance from Mary Willemin.

Joy Spurr came by the shelter Saturday morning and was pressed into service as mushroom identifier until Brian Luther arrived and took over that duty. Ninety species had been identified when darkness fell. Brian loaded the remainder of the mushrooms into his car to take home and work on later.

Brian brought his mother on her very first mushroom hunting expedition; she seemed to enjoy the experience as much as we enjoyed having her.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO THE DALLES FOREST
CAMP - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH H.R.H.

The forest service is renovating this close, and beautiful campground, but gave us permission to use the shelter for the day. We were joined on this outing by members of the Washington Native Plant Society.

Since the campground had been closed, many specimens were found there. However, in general, not too many collections of edibles were brought in. But most people found some Armillaria ponderosa, A. mellea, Hericium coralloides, Rozites caperata, Gomphidius subroseus. Just before the potluck one member came back with a very large Sparassis radicata.

George Rafanelli identified 90 species. Sixty members and guests signed the register, and 39 enjoyed the potluck which included fresh oysters from Hoods Canal which were roasted in the fireplace. Some people stayed on to roast marshmallows. But we all had to get the cars out of the campground by about six o'clock, when the sheriff came to lock up. All in all, it was a lovely day.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD TRIP TO THE CRYSTAL SPRINGS
FOREST CAMP - OCT. 22ND & 23RD H.R.H.

Many new members came to this first field trip after the Show. A big group left under the guidance of the Hendricks-sons, many on their first ever mushroom hunt. They were rewarded with many Leccinum aurantiacum, as well as Armillaria ponderosa and Rozites caperata. However, many areas where they collected were wet and slippery, and one new member slid down a very steep bank for about 150 feet all the way down to 1 - 90. Since it was too steep to climb back up, he flagged down a car and asked for a ride back to the group and his vehicle (which by road was quite a ways). Luckily, he did not seem hurt. During his long slide he was able to hang on to his mushrooms, but they were somewhat crushed in a plastic bag. In the coming beginners' classes the subject of clothing, gear and equipment will be discussed, so that our new members can get started correctly.

The weather held most of the day, and a few sprinkles occurred as we headed back toward the shelter. For the first time on a field trip this fall, hosting duties were shared by "old-timers" Paul & Kay Anson, and "newcomers" Andy & Michelle Green, giving each the opportunity to hunt for a short time.

Sigrun Budnick, who has a cabin nearby, helped out too, as well as taking newcomers out in the field. The identification of some 80+ species was supervised by President Milton Grout. Sixty people signed the register, and 40 stayed for the potluck, after which we drove back to Seattle in the rain.

ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR BEGINNERS

Monte Hendrickson

Again this year we will have classes for the many beginners who joined the Society during the Annual Exhibit. For your convenience the sessions have been scheduled at 6:45 pm on the Monday of the Society's regular monthly meeting. The first class will be held Monday, November 14th. It will last till 7:30 pm, so that we all can then examine the specimens on the table and enjoy a stretch until the regular membership meeting starts at 8:00 pm.

The classes will continue through June and prepare our new members for the spring season. The topics of the sessions are: (1) Orientation for absolute beginners into all aspects of our Society. (2) Cooking and preservation of mushrooms. (3) Basic fundamentals of mushroom identification. (4) Review of the spring mushrooms. The series includes a learning field trip for spring mushrooms.

All interested members are welcome. There will be no charge for these Orientation Sessions.

TELLURIDE FORAY - AUGUST 25-26-27 Tatiana Roats

In the hardy, turn-of-the century mining town of Telluride the Victorian buildings stand nestled 8,750 feet high in the Colorado mountains, and they are still surrounded by higher peaks. In this delightful setting, the mushroom festival and foray took place in two small buildings and the town square. One had only to walk a few steps out of town to find bumper crops of Boletus edulis, Leccinum aurantiacum, Hydnum imbricatum, Calvatia gigantea, Amanita muscaria, and many more.

Meals in the old Elks' Lodge were chummy and informal with picnic cutlery and paper plates, all casually arranged on old arm chairs, and wall to wall tables accommodating approx. 150 or so participants with little room to spare. The usual brown bag lunch also took on a unique character as one had to build one's own from a table laden with all the "makings".

Lectures took place at the local opera house every morning. The speakers, Gary Lincoff, Dr. Andrew Weil, Dr. T. Szasz, Paul Stametz, Gary Menser, covered topics from the usual mushroom identification, mushroom cultivation, psycho-active mushrooms, truffle cultivation, psychomythology, and more. Lectures were followed by two hours of foraging at will. Then the mushrooms were identified and displayed in the town square. The rains came, and the display tables had to be moved in the second day. Cook and taste sessions by Dr. A. Weil were held (elbow-to-elbow) in the tiny Elks' Lodge kitchen where huge discs of Calvatia gigantea were fried in large iron fry pans. To us they tasted like butter-drenched blotters, but were a treat to others. To each his own, you know.

The field trips and lectures here were better balanced, we thought, than those at Snow Mountain (NAMA) where field trips occupied most of the time and allowed limited contact with fellow participants. At Telluride local people were able to attend lectures at will so that there was a total mushroom experience for the entire town as well as foray members. This was a fun trip and may become an annual for us.



IN MEMORIAM
Fay Melsen
1924 - 1983

A member of PSMS since 1967, Fay Melsen contributed a great deal to our Society. She was membership chairperson, served on the Board of Trustees, and on the election committee, to name just a few formal functions.

Fay helped on every Annual Exhibit and hosted numerous field trips where she always had encouraging words for the new members and tried to make them comfortable in their new venture.

We all remember Fay's ready smile and willingness to help wherever help was needed. She patiently answered many phone calls of new members and helped identify thousands of mushrooms brought to field trips or her home.

We all miss her and extend our deepest sympathy to her husband Howard, and daughter Sharon. We who knew Fay, join her many friends in saying "so long" to a wonderful human being and one of our finest members.

BOOK REVIEW

Brian S. Luther

THE MITCHELL BEAZLEY POCKET GUIDE TO MUSHROOMS AND TOADSTOOLS by David N. Pegler. Mitchell Beazley Publishers, London, 1981. pp. 168.

This little book fulfills its promise of being a true "pocket guide", since it is 19-1/2 cm wide, and 1 cm thick. The book begins with very short, but basically adequate sections as follows: Nomenclature, Mushroom structure, illustrated glossary, Collecting mushrooms, Edible mushrooms, Poisonous mushrooms, and a Field key. The book is unique, because the author has organized the species according to habitat, rather than a generic, familial or look-alike grouping. The author has 13 different habitat chapters, as follows: (1) Coniferous woods, (2) Mixed woods, (3) Frondose woods, (4) Birch woods (5) Beech and Oak woods, (6) Alder carrs, (7) Elm, (8) Parks roadsides and wastelands, and (9) Heaths and grasslands, (10) Marshes, fens and bogs, (11) Sanddunes and seaside meadows, (12) Burnt ground, (13) Dung. Each habitat chapter has an introduction and the chapters vary greatly in the number of species included, from 105 in Frondose woods, to 3 under elm. Although designed primarily for Great Britain and Europe, the book does have a great deal of practical application here, since a large portion of the species treated are found in North America. I counted 457 color plates of different species and for such a small book it really covers a lot of material. The talented artists responsible for the plates are Patrick Cox, Gill Tomblin and Colin Emberson. This little guide is very helpful as a quick reference source for color plates. The book covers only Basidiomycetes, and true to the title, almost exclusively, gilled mushrooms, with the exception of 25 boletes and 5 members of the order Aphylloporales. Hydroid fungi, Clavarioid fungi, polypores, Gasteromycetes and Jelly fungi are not included. The descriptions are quite brief, but are always right next to their corresponding color plate; a convenience that cannot be overemphasized.

Spore measurements are given and each color plate also has an enlarged view of a spore. In addition, a longitudinal section of the pileus is included in each plate as well as small symbols depicting edibility, frequency, and more habitat information. Most all of the plates are very good, but the one for Chalciporus (Boletus) piperatus does not show the very characteristic and diagnostic bright-yellow mycelium at the base of the stem, although it is mentioned in the description. The reader should keep in mind that the actual practical applicability of the habitat chapters as a guide here in North America is questionable, since we do not have the same tree species, vegetation associations or soil types, etc. as they do in Europe. Even so, the book will prove very useful in the U.S. and Canada. It does have an index at the end, but for such a nice little publication it is too bad that there is no bibliography or references for further reading for the beginner. Good quality paper was used, but it is doubtful whether the binding would resist frequent field use. Even so, it is a good buy at \$7.50 and I do recommend it. It is available from Lubrecht & Cramer, RFD 1, Box 227, Monticello, NY 12701.

BOOKS - BOOKS - BOOKS - BOOKS

Judi Boa

Be sure to come by the book sales display at this membership meeting and do your Christmas buying - it is not too early to start. You never have enough field guides and identification books.

New books have arrived (The Simon & Schuster Guide to Mushrooms; the gummed stickers with the scientific names for the Audubon Society Fieldguide; Kit Scates' Easy Key and Easy Guide) and new books are on display for which orders will be taken (Moser: Polypores, Boletes and Agarics; The Mitchell Beazley Pocket Guide (reviewed in this issue) and the new Stametz book on Mushroom Cultivation, etc.)

Word has just reached us that the Mad River Press will have no mushroom calendar for 1984. They now say a two-year calendar is planned for 1985.

Also on the table is a flyer advertising a new magazine of interest to mushroom hunters, called MUSHROOM, The Journal of Wild Mushrooming, which will appear four times a year, cost \$12.00/year payable in advance. Order through Box 3156, University Station, Moscow, ID 83843.

BRIEFS

PSMS members Bill and Irene O'Connor represent the Society in the Lake Quinault area, where they live. However, they do help every year on the Annual Exhibit, where Irene also displays mushroom arts and crafts. At home they identify mushrooms for the natives and tourists, and occasionally they teach classes. Keep up the good work!

Under the influence..... A man in England was fined \$200 by a court for driving while under the influence of mushrooms. Stopped on suspicion of drunken driving, he denied being drunk. He said he had eaten a handful of raw hallucinogenic mushrooms and found he couldn't stop laughing. The court ruled he had not been in a fit state to drive. (from the newsletter of the Connecticut Valley Mycol. Society).

An Amazon Riverboat Foray is planned for February 1984. Accommodations for 20 persons is available on a boat. Daily excursions are planned into an area where the flora is unrecorded. For further information contact Gerry Miller, P.O. Box 126, East Haddam, CT 06423. The organizer has collected mushrooms with Dr. Rolf Singer in the region.

Good Hunting locally, until the freeze comes!