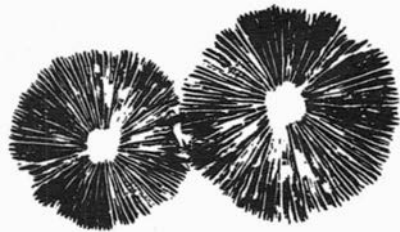


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 242

May 1988



THE ONE COPY, ONE COPIER BLUES Dennis Bowman



Imagine for a moment that it's 9:30 or 10:00 p.m., and you're having a hard time figuring out just what the heck a *Lepiota* is. Your identification book doesn't seem to cover what you think you're looking at, and you're about to remove one more little handful of hair from the top of your head, only you have so little hair left since your studies of *Clitocybe*. Suddenly you remember your friend, the local *Lepiota* expert, and off you go for some advice, or at least a little sympathy. He succeeds in calming you down, while shaking his head at your patchwork-quilt hair-do, and begins pulling out his wonderful reference books. One even has descriptions that allow you to come as close to a reasonable answer as you can with a *Lepiota*.

Upon learning that the book is out of print and virtually unavailable, you borrow it for a quick trip to the local Kinko's shop and run off a dozen or so pages of critical descriptions. The fact that it's now 11:00 p.m. doesn't even slow you down.

Next imagine that you're in Leningrad, USSR. You're lucky enough to find a mushroom expert, who just happens to own a book that seems to have what you need. You immediately sit down, take out a pen, and begin to hand copy the descriptions. Four hours later, you're finished with the text. As for the pictures, well, that's a bit more difficult, since most of your ink drawings could easily pass for a Rorschach psychological test.

Why not just head down to the local Kinkosky's? Well, in Leningrad, comrade, copying by machine is just about impossible. You may have heard of such a machine; in fact, you might even have heard that the huge Leningrad library has one. But how could you possibly be able to use it? It's just something you've heard of.

I have a friend in Leningrad. He does, in fact, study mushrooms. Not only does he know of this marvelous copying machine at the Leningrad library, but he has actually used it. Sasha is close enough to his name for this article, and here is what he told me about his experience.

As part of his regular job, Sasha had to copy a manuscript. A few pages at a time, he would take the material to be copied to his "chief," or supervisor, who would review it and write a letter of permission for the copies. Sasha would then go to the library and stand in a line waiting to see a special "chief," who would review the material to be copied along with the letter of permission and write a second letter of permission. With the two necessary letters in hand, Sasha would then stand in a special paper line along with others who had also gotten their proper permissions. Eventually, he would work his way to the window, where he would receive four sheets of blank paper, the maximum allowed at one time. Now it was

off to the actual copy line, which led to a window through which all material was passed -- the two letters of permission, the script to be copied, and one sheet of blank paper for each original. The only thing remaining was to take a seat and wait until, presto, the copies were ready. Then Sasha was out the door and headed home, ready to start the process all over again. In slightly under six months, he had the whole manuscript copied.

I thought about the "5 cents a copy" signs on every corner storefront at home, and I wanted to cry.

I know mushroom lovers in both Novosibirsk and Leningrad who are dying to start a mycology study group, but how can they when information is so hard to come by? I've thought about it for some time now, and I have some ideas I'd like to share.



Next month: What to do?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gilbert Austin

It has been a while since we talked of the building fund.

As all of you know, PSMS has until the end of June 1989 to raise \$25,000 for long-term (20 or so years), payment-free office/storage/meeting space at CUH. If we do not, we will have the option of either finding another place (a tough, tough search that would be) or continuing to occupy our present space -- but at our present rate of payment.

Here is a bare-bones breakdown of our financial situation. (1) By the end of June 1989, we will have paid CUH \$9,000 (\$300/month for 30 months) to be credited toward our \$25,000 goal. (2) In addition, commitments to the building fund now total about \$6,000. (3) Finally, we would be able to draw about \$5,000 from PSMS funds that are now in deposit accounts. That makes \$20,000 -- still \$5,000 short of our goal.

It would be a great pity not to meet our goal, since we would lose the \$9,000 credit from our occupancy contributions and the \$6,000 in the building fund, which is conditional on raising the whole \$25,000.

At the April meeting, the Board of Trustees voted to hold a 1989 fund-raiser in the form of a special banquet. This will be in addition to the annual survivors' banquet and will occur in late April or early May. Besides being a fund raiser, the banquet will be a special event marking the 25th anniversary of the founding of PSMS. It is unrealistic, however, to expect to raise \$5,000 from the banquet alone. We will still require individual donations in large volume. Remember, these contributions can be tax deductible. If you can contribute, please do so.

Spore Prints

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PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Center for Urban Horticulture, Mail Stop GF-15,
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Calendar

May 7 Field trip, Lake Wenatchee
May 9 Public mushroom ID, 3-7:00 p.m., CUH
Intermediate seminar, 7-9:00 p.m., CUH
May 10 Membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
May 14 Special field trip, Crystal Springs
May 16 Public mushroom ID, 3-7:00 p.m., CUH
Special Board meeting, 7:00 p.m., CUH
May 17 Beginners' class, 7-9:00 p.m., CUH
May 20 *Spore Prints* deadline
May 21 Field trip, Swauk creek
May 23 Public mushroom ID, 3-7:00 p.m., CUH
Intermediate seminar, 7-9:00 p.m., CUH
May 24 Beginners' class, 7-9:00 p.m., CUH
May 27 Field trip, American River Ski Lodge
May 30 *Spore Prints* mailing, 10:00 a.m., CUH
May 31 Beginners' class, 7-9:00 p.m., CUH
June 4 Field trip, Clear Lake

Tour - Aug. 13-28: David Arora and David Grimes will lead 12 people on a "low budget, high adventure" Alaska mushroom tour. Contact David Arora, 708 Sumner St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062 - (408) 425-0188.

Conference - Aug. 25-28: The Telluride Mushroom Conference will feature law, identification, cooking, cultivation, and toxicology. Contact Fungophile, P.O. Box 5503, Denver, CO 80217 - (303) 296-9359.

Seminar - Sept. 30-Oct. 2: A PSMS member, Dr. Fred Rhoades of Western Washington University, will present "Mushrooms of Olympic National Park." Contact Olympic Park Institute, 600 East Park Ave., Port Angeles, WA 98362 - (206) 452-4501 ext. 227.

Membership Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle

Mike Maki will tell us how we can grow mushrooms at home. He has extensive experience in mushroom cultivation, marketing mushroom growing kits through Full Moon Mushroom Products, P.O. Box 6138, Olympia, WA 98502. He also heads Agro Forestry Associates, pioneers in leasing private land for commercial mushroom harvesting, and is willing to open that can of worms.

PSMS MUSHROOM MISSIONARIES

Maggie Rogers addressed the January meeting of the Oregon Mycological Society, telling them about "Old Guys," literate early mycologists and naturalists.

In March, Brian Luther gave two talks on "Mushrooms in the Mailbox," one to the Vancouver (B.C.) Mycological Society and one at the annual banquet of the Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society.

Dick Sieger gave a talk about spring mushrooms at the Jefferson County Mycological Society's April meeting.

On April 27th, Coleman Leuthy gave a talk on mushroom poisoning at Northwest Hospital as part of an outdoor illness seminar for physicians.

Coming up, Denis Benjamin will give a class in Wild Mushroom Cookery at The Herbfarm, on the Issaquah-Fall City Road on May 15th.

BOARD NEWS

Mari Bull

The May 16th board meeting has been designated a special meeting to discuss a bylaws change (should memberships starting in July continue for 17 months?) Ralph Burbridge will be in charge of a fund-raising banquet to be held after the 1989 survivors' banquet. A guidance committee is being set up to help select titles for book sales; we hope to offer a larger selection. Patrice Benson will look into revising our society's cookbook and report back to the board. The board voted to have a booth, again managed by Ingeborg McGuire, at the Enumclaw fair this summer. Gary Smith will arrange a PSMS summer picnic in July. Ingeborg McGuire is in charge of collecting ideas for marking our 25th anniversary in 1989. Coleman Leuthy, our exhibit chairman, will reserve space at CUH for our 1989 exhibit.

LAKE WILDERNESS FORAY

Irwin Kleinman

Despite torrential rains, eight brave souls turned out at Lake Wilderness on April 2, 1988. The search for *Verpa bohemica* was rewarded by full baskets for some. Two ladies found a patch of *Verpa* in the park area, but the main finds were among the cottonwood trees along the Cedar River.

Coffee and snacks were served by the hosts, Irwin and Millie Kleinman.

ROCKPORT FORAY

Irwin Kleinman

The annual *Verpa* bash was held in the Rockport area April 19, 1988, accompanied by clear skies and temperatures in the 60's. Sixty members beat the brush, and good quantities of the quarry were taken.

Another gourmet pot luck was attended by 38 members, hosted by Erwin and Jessie Roulean and Irwin and Millie Kleinman. The identifiers were Hildegard Hendrickson and Larry Baxter, aided by Coleman Leuthy. Twenty-five different mushrooms were identified.

We would like to thank Mr. Bob Bangert, park caretaker, and the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department for the use of the park facilities and the building that houses the cooking and dining areas.

SPECIAL FIELD TRIP Dennis Bowman/Dick Sieger



Hooray! Crystal Springs, our most popular field trip, has been designated a special extravaganza, with lots of exciting activities taking place all day Saturday. Want to know how the experts do it? Go hunting with PSMS's finest. Still pessimistic about your luck in the woods? Help prepare your own spawn and grow mushrooms at home. Got so many you don't know what to do with them? Watch our famous chef turn them into mouth-watering dishes in front of your very eyes -- and sample the results with a glass of wine at a special gourmet warmup to the regular evening pot luck. There's something for everybody, so don't miss it. Events begin 9:30 a.m., Saturday, May 14, at the Crystal Springs campground. (See "Spring Field Trips" for directions.)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Mushroom experts will take out small groups of people and demonstrate collecting techniques.

11:30 a.m. to noon - Return to the shelter, warm up, and dry out.

Noon to 12:45 p.m. - Eat lunch while discussing the mushrooms that were found.

1:00 to 2:00 p.m. - Hands-on demonstration by Mark Jarand on how to grow mushrooms at home. Prepare your own spawn for cultivation.

2:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Patrice Benson will demonstrate mushroom cookery.

3:00 p.m. - The serious business of cookery and preparing mushroom spawn continues while those who have brought wine and snacks compare vintages.

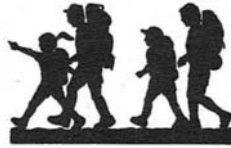
5:00 p.m. - Regular PSMS dinner pot luck. Bring your guitars and banjos.

Died: Charter member Roger W. Spurr, 76, of Issaquah, on the 14th of April. At his request there were no services. Our condolences to his wife, Joy. Remembrances can be given to Woodland Park Zoological Society or the Arboretum Foundation.



SPRING FIELD TRIPS

Irwin Kleinman



Please check the society's message recorder for last minute changes. All trips are weekend events. On Saturday, hosts will greet you and keep a coffee pot going. An expert will be on hand to help in identification.

Bring a main dish, salad, or dessert so you may join the Saturday evening pot luck. Camp overnight, if you wish, and continue collecting on Sunday. Children are always welcome.

Lake Wenatchee State Park **May 7, 1988**
Go east on Route 2 over Stevens Pass. Twenty miles east of the summit, turn left on Route 207. Go to the shelter in the park's day use area.

Crystal Springs Forest Camp **May 14, 1988**
Take I-5 over Snoqualmie Pass. Nine miles east of the summit take the Stampede Pass exit #62. Turn right at the stop sign. After a quarter mile (before the bridge) bear right to enter the camp.

Swauk Creek Camp **May 21, 1988**
Take I-5 over Snoqualmie Pass and use exit #35, just east of Cle Elum. Follow Route 970 to the Route 97 intersection. Turn left (north) and continue on Route 97 for about 16 miles. The campground is on the right. Swauk Pass is about 4 miles past the campground.

American River Ski Lodge **May 27-30, 1988**
Go east on Route 410 over Chinook Pass. About 17 miles past the summit, turn right onto Bumping Lake Road 174. Turn right again after 1/4 mile, and right-turn uphill through gate. Continue for 1/2 or 3/4 mile to ski lodge.

Clear Lake Forest Camp **June 4, 1988**
The camp is southeast of Mt. Rainier National Park on State Route 12. Use the well marked turn-off about 7 miles east of White Pass summit. Travel four-tenths of a mile and take the left fork which is Road 1312. Continue another half mile and turn right into the campground that is across the road from the Spring Forest Camp. There is no shelter or water.

Coming up: A field trip to Ostrom's mushroom farm. Watch for details in the June *Spore Prints*.

Welcome to the following new members:

Shelagh Lane, 121 - 12th Street S.E., Apt. B, Washington, DC 20003

Levi McVey, 6341 Sand Point Way, Seattle, WA 98115
524-7558

Paul Rapp, 423-1/2 Puget Street, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

Bob Schinske, 1215 - 10th Avenue W., Seattle, WA 98119
282-4108

Rosanne Sharpe, 7753 - 14th N.W., Seattle, WA 98117
782-1447

David and Doreen Tanenbaum, P.O. Box 1337, Mercer Island, WA 98040
747-4915

Carol Worthen, 13727 Interlake Avenue N., Seattle, WA 98133
364-0782

BOOK REVIEW

Joseph F. Ammirati

California Mushrooms - The Agaricales (Gilled Fungi) of California. Edited by Harry D. Thiers, San Francisco State University. A series of publications by several authors on families and/or genera of California mushrooms. Published by Mad River Press, Inc., 141 Carter Lane, Eureka, California 95501. Papers vary in length as do prices!

"Whether you want to study mycology, collect delicious specimens, or merely enrich your hiking and camping trips, *California Mushrooms* invites you to explore the fascinating world around you." This quote from the dust jacket of *California Mushrooms, A Field Guide to the Boletes*, by H. D. Thiers, Hafner Press, 1975, sets the tone for *The Agaricales (Gilled Mushrooms) of California*. *A Field Guide to Boletes* is essentially the first comprehensive publication by H. D. Thiers on California mushrooms. This excellent book represents a starting point from which he has been able to complete, together with his numerous students, several taxonomic treatments on mushrooms of California. So far this approach has been exceedingly successful; seven publications are available, and at least four more are in preparation.

The first four publications were prepared by Harry D. Thiers. They are on the Amanitaceae (*Amanita*, *Lima-cella*), Cantharellaceae (*Cantharellus*, *Craterellus*, *Gomphus*, *Polyozellus*), Gomphidiaceae (*Gomphidius*, *Chroogomphus*, *Brauniellula*) and Paxillaceae (*Paxillus*, *Phylloporus*). David L. Largent then prepared an excellent treatment of the family Hygrophoraceae (*Hygrophorus*). Since then the Agariceae (*Agaricus* and *Melanophyllum*) has been superbly dealt with by R. W. Kerrigan; and most recently, Dennis E. Desjardin treated the marasmioid fungi: the genera *Baeospora*, *Crinipellis*, *Marasmiellus*, *Marasmius*, *Micromphale*, and *Strobilurus*. In preparation are treatments of *Russula* by H. D. Thiers, *Lactarius* by Andy Methven, Collybioid fungi by Roy Halling and Dennis Desjardin, and *Lepiota* by Walter Sundberg.

The taxonomic treatments in this series of publications follow a basic pattern. The families are carefully described where appropriate (there is a key to the families of gilled mushrooms in the treatment on the Amanitaceae). There are generic descriptions, keys to genera and species, and excellent and complete descriptions of all taxa (species, varieties, etc.) treated. The keys to species typically come in two forms, a dichotomous key and a synoptic key. For each species there is a discussion and information on habitat and distribution. Line drawings of microscopical features are provided where appropriate, and for some treatments, for example, *Amanita*, there are color photographs. Each publication has a table of contents, a brief introduction, an index to species, a list of important references, and often a list of Ridgway Colors. A somewhat unique feature is the list of voucher specimens for the taxa in each publication. The treatments are printed on 5-1/2 x 8-1/2 three hole punch pages, which fit into ring binders available from Mad River Press. This somewhat novel approach allows for adding new information and modifications at a later date, without the cost of having to repurchase a new complete version of the publication. The publications are suitable for use by professional mycologists, students, and interested amateur mushroomers. In general, they cover mushrooms throughout the Pacific Northwest and are among the most useful mushroom publications in North America. I recommend them highly! Keep an eye out for new treatments that will become available over the next several years. More than 30 years of nearly continuous work by Harry Thiers and his students is beginning to pay off in big dividends to mushroomers great and small.



Thank you: Chair Millie Kleinman, Mae Green, Bob Hamilton, and Bob Judd for mailing our newsletter early, 2 days before the postal rate increase. The next mailing is on May 31st at 10:00 a.m. at CUH.

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SIEGER, Dick & Agnes
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Christopher Joseph Ammirati, son of Susan and Joe, was born April 3, 1988.