



SPORE PRINTS



PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

200 Second Avenue North - Seattle, Washington 98109

APRIL, 1971

NUMBER 71

EDUCATIONAL ON SPRING MUSHROOMS SET FOR APRIL MEET

A popular panel program on spring fungus, featuring slides and experts to answer questions, will be presented at this month's membership meetings: 8 p.m., Monday, April 12, at the Eames Theatre in the Pacific Science Center.

Although it may not seem like spring outside (this is written in late March), we have reports of several collections of early morels already. Very likely, some early birds will bring spring mushrooms for the identification table.

PSMS ELECTION RESULTS

The 1971-1972 Society officers and board members were announced at the annual banquet meeting. Officers reelected to another term were Robert Ramsey, President; Fred Wasson, Treasurer; and Freda Paice, Secretary. Howard Melsen was selected to be our new Vice-President.

Incumbent board members chosen to serve again were Fay Melsen, Georgia Ramsey, Isabelle Swaffield, Helen Wasson and Ben Woo. Milton Grout, Ann Levanavich, Harley and June Perkins, and Carolyn Weber are the newly elected board members. Hildah Nolan, Don Peterson and David Schmitt will serve as board alternates.

Leaving the Board, with appreciation for their service, are Ann Bard, Dorothy and Victor Nendza, Paul Nestell and alternates Estella and Martin Hansen.

MORELS ARE UP - UP AND AT 'EM!

Paul Nestell, our field trip honcho and morel collector par excellence, has worked up a spring foray schedule guaranteed to take your mind off income tax blues and the long winter confinement, the record March rains. Four additional one-day-trips have been included to ease the crush, provide nearby hunts for members unable to commit a weekend. Experienced leaders will staff these short jaunts. Members are urged to give Paul and Carol Nestell needed assistance on the longer tours. You can get in touch with them at 4500 Martin Way, Sp. 40, Olympia 98501, phone 491-5648.

April 10-11 - French Creek Forest Camp — 7 miles west of Darrington off SR 9. In the event of an overflow turnout, members will be directed to Squire Creek County Park, 4 miles west of Darrington. Paul, who will have a couple of burns mapped out, believes the Skagit and Sauk river bottoms should provide good collecting.

April 10 - Gold Bar — City park in Gold Bar, east of Monroe on SR 2. Good Verpa country, lots of cottonwoods and willows. Several campsites near Index. Fay and Howard Melsen, leaders.

April 24-25 - Cle Elum Fireman's Pavilion — Take business route off freeway, turn right

at Swiftwater Park sign, cross bridge, turn left beyond athletic field.

April 24 - Money Creek Forest Camp --- 34 miles east of Monroe on SR 2. Large camp, no shelter. Good Verpa and morel country; Charles Volz, leader.

May 8-9 - Dalles Forest Camp --- 25 miles east of Enumclaw on SR 410.

May 8 - Osborne --- 4 miles southeast of Redmond on SR 522. Complete camp, shelter. Leader needed.

May 22-23 - Tumwater Forest Camp --- 10 miles north of Leavenworth on SR 2.

May 22 - Olney Park --- 7 miles north of Sultan, shelter. Claude and Margaret Dilly, leaders.

May 29-31 - North Fork Forest Camp --- Entiat Valley Road 317, 33 miles northwest of Entiat. We ask that no self-contained units park at above headquarters. There are three other camps within a few miles up the road. All other camps below North Fork are closed due to last fall's fire damage.



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PLEASE! If this is your first field trip, bring some dry wood for the communal fire. If this is not your first foray, you know better than not to. Potluck times will be announced at the week-end camps.

COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT BOB RAMSEY

"The Society banquet was a splendid event. The outcome of the voting has provided a group I am confident can work well together.

"Any member, not on the Board, who wishes to bring an issue before the Board, shall do so in writing so that it will come to the President's attention at least one week prior to the board meeting (last Monday of each month). If the request is stated clearly in the letter, no personal presentation will be necessary. However, a member may then make the request in person, amplifying but not diverging from the request. Those committee chairmen who are not members of the Board may discuss their particular projects at length but also must make written requests to be placed on the agenda when they wish to introduce divergent subjects. Visitors may enter into discussion if asked to comment by members of the Board.

"This is not meant to be a restrictive measure. It is for three reasons: 1) To enable the President to place the item on the written agenda and to determine action needed. 2) To inform affected members of the Board if some study is needed on their part. 3) To assure the petitioner adequate time to state his case."

1971 PSMS ROSTER - Was your 1970 listing correct; does it need changing? If so, contact Fay Melsen, PR. 8-8191, Mountlake Terrace, or send change to Society office. Soon! Deadline for roster cover artwork is April 15.

PROFILE OF THE SOCIETY'S FIRST PRESIDENT



PSMS charter member, Dean of the Board of Trustees, perpetual motion disguised as an architect - that's Ben Woo. Prominent civic leader, popular TV personality, lecturer and author, Ben needs no introduction.

In 1964, under the aegis of Dr. Dixy Lee Ray and Dr. Daniel Stuntz, Ben and nine friends (among them Charles Volz, last month's VIP) organized PSMS and signed its Articles of Incorporation. Ben also formulated the By-Laws under which the Society has functioned. He was elected as the first president in 1964, then re-elected in 1965. Since then he has served continuously on the Board and on numerous committees where his vast experience and insight have contributed immeasurable benefit to the Society. Ben chaired the Exhibit Committee for two years and his organizational ability and rare aesthetic talents have helped to insure success at all seven PSMS annual exhibits. Quiet and unassuming, Ben's after-dinner banter has made him a popular MC at our banquets. Generous with his time and knowledge, he is frequently invited to be a guest speaker by other clubs and groups.

In his spare time, Ben contributes to PSMS education classes as well as lecturing at general membership meetings. In addition, Ben has written scientific articles for such publications as PACIFIC SEARCH. His name appears frequently in Seattle newspapers because of his wide participation in civic affairs. His interests cover a wide spectrum of Seattle's culture. To mention a few, Ben is president of the Wing Luke Memorial Museum, acting president of the Model Housing Development League, board member of PACIFIC SEARCH, board member of the Chinese Community Service Organization, and past secretary of the Chung Wah Benevolent Association.



A native son of Seattle, he attended Bailey-Gatzert and Warren Avenue elementary schools, Queen Anne High, and received a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Washington. His children - four sons and a daughter - range in age from 14 to 21. His mother also resides in Seattle.

Ben has been interested in hunting and studying mushrooms for some 15 years, since a Japanese-American friend introduced him to tracking down the delectable Matsutake. His favorite fungi are the Agaricus silvaticus and the Agrocybe praecox. Ben's hobbies range from mushrooming to collecting books on same to photography and skiing.

-- Freda L. Paice

ANNUAL BANQUET MEETING DREW RECORD CROWD

Around 550 persons thoroughly enjoyed both the banquet and program arranged by Belle Swaffield and her crew. Unfortunately, a detailed account on the annual survivors's soiree had not arrived by bulletin deadline time, likewise the annual financial report. Both will be carried in the May issue.

NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN APPOINTED

The following new committee chairmen were approved at the April board meeting: Publications and Historian-Librarian, Ben Woo; Education Material, Freda Paice; Bulletin Mailing, June Perkins; Banquet Chairwoman, Carolyn Weber; House, Harley Perkins; Publicity, Belle Swaffield; and Helen Wasson, Book Sales. Howard Melsen will chair the Meeting Programs Committee.

Continuing chairmen for 1970-71 are Milton Grout, Education; Fay Melsen, Membership; Paul Nestell; Field Trips; Joy Spurr, Photography; and Charles Proctor, Arts & Crafts.

CLASSIFIED: EDITOR WANTED

This issue is the current editor's last stint. Members interested in taking the job on are invited to talk to one of the officers at the April meeting.

LATE SPRING MUSHROOMS

(Paul Nestell has written this article as a follow up to his piece on early spring mushrooms in the March bulletin).

Coprinus atramentarius should be sought in such grassy places as cemeteries, parks, yards, in usually well packed soil from April through July. *C. comatus* may be located in stubble fields of last year's grain cut. Also, along newly graveled roads, April - July. Look for *C. micaceous* on or around hardwood stumps and downed hardwood logs, January through July.

For *Clavarias*, check mixed woods May through June. *Aurea* (yellow), *Subbotrytis* (pink), and *botrytis* (red) *clavarias* usually grow in the arcs of a circle.

Pine forests during the months of May and June are the best bet for the treasured *Boletus edulis*. *B. aurantiacus* group fruits in mixed forests containing some pine, May through July.

Seek *Gyroporus cyanescens* at around 4000 feet on the east slopes of the Cascade Mountains, just over any of the passes. *Pleurotis sapidus* and *ulmoris* grow in dead or damaged hardwood trees such as cottonwood or elm, January through June. Open forest glades and along road sides are popular spots for *Clitocybe multiceps*.

Look for *Dentinum umbilicatum* under salal bushes, in mossy areas by downed logs and rotting stumps. January - April is the season. *Verpa bohemica*s fruit through April. *Agaricus campestris* may be found in open grassy fields during April and June. *Helvellas* may be picked through June and *Aricularia* from April through June.

From March through July, check for *Aleuria aurantia* on open bare ground or in gravel. The *Rozites caperata* fruits in May and June. *Amanitas* may be found year around. Several species of puffballs may be collected April through July.



Dr. Dan Stuntz is visioned as the Grand Pasha of the Mushroom People in this fantasy by Dina Chybinski. The iguana is *Caligula*, pet of our scientific advisor. For his years of devoted service to the Society (like answering thousands of questions again and again, patiently), he was awarded - at the annual banquet - a round trip ticket to Czechoslovakia. This summer he will visit with one of his colleagues, Dr. Pilat, a renowned Czech mycologist.

MUSHROOM ARTICLES - Joy Spurr reports that, at the April 12 meeting, the following issues of Pacific Search containing mushroom articles may be purchased: Key to Northwest Amanitas, 16¢, and the following for 53¢ each, Jan. issue, Key to Puffballs and Earthstars, Feb. issue, short article on Mushroom of the Month - *Clavaria*, and March issue, Key to Chanterelles.

April and May will be the last chance for members to obtain a Pacific Search sub for \$3. Take advantage of bargain (price going up) as each issue will contain a fungus article.

Joy reminds members that they can also place orders for carved plastic red name plates (\$1.10) at meetings...great for identification at field trips, etc.

There's a strong rumour out of Spokane to the effect that the North American Mycological Association will hold its 1972 foray at Priest Lake in Idaho. These annual events hosted by NAMA involve leading mycologists from around the U.S., as well as as amateur students.

Share the fun - take a friend out moreling.