



SPORE PRINTS



BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

200 Second Avenue North

Seattle, Washington 98109

FEBRUARY, 1972

NUMBER 79

membership meetings

NOTE: Planning Committee meets 6:45 before regular meeting Feb. 14. Science Center Conference Room.

Monday, February 14, 8 pm, Eames Theater, Pacific Science Center:

FEBRUARY MEETING WILL SEE A SLIDE AND SOUND PRESENTATION by the Alpine Lakes Protection Society A*L*P*S* depicting a unique asset of the Pacific Northwest, the Alpine Lakes area of the Washington Cascades. Society officers Don Baldwin and Ron Arnold will explain the need to protect this fragile, natural area from exploitation and destruction. A proposal to create a national recreation area with an Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area at its core is the subject of legislation now before Congress.

Nominations for officers and trustees will close at end of meeting, but we want them to flood in right up to closing time. The watchwords are: why not have someone in office you know you can rely on to make PSMS live and interesting - nominate yourself and vote for the man or woman you have confidence in. Each of the following has thrown a pileus in the ring: (so far) (Cont. on page 3)

Survivors' Banquet March 17

Ralph Nolan, a favorite son of St. Patrick, will be Master of Ceremonies. Our Wild Irish Wit will introduce new officers and trustees and handle whatever other obligatory confusion turns up. A mystery speaker will speak on a mystery subject, (We know who it is - we're just building up the suspense...you know.)

Ruby Chow's exotic Irish cookery will please your palate - mushrooms in everything but the tea. (For newcomers, Ruby Chow is famous for her Chinese specialties--there won't really be Irish stew.)

NORWAY CENTER, no host cocktails at 6:30; dinner at 8. Your ticket entitles you to one free drink.

TICKETS will be for sale at February meeting by the Merry Ticket Sellers of Hildah Nolan, Chairperson. \$7 each person.

Or mail self-addressed, stamped envelope and your check to
PSMS BANQUET
200 - 2nd No.
Seattle 98109

DEADLINE for tickets is March 10.

THE LAW: People who are not paid up members are not eligible to (A) vote, or (B) buy banquet tickets. No exceptions, sorry.





SPORE PRINTS is published monthly excepting July and August by the PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, c/o The Pacific Science Center, 200 - 2nd Ave N, Seattle, Washington 98109. *** CONNIE CALVERT, Editor until June by which time I will expect some one of you who's always had a sneaking wish to be an Editor will have shyly crept up and offered to join me for an issue or two to learn the trade. First Offering.

OFFICERS Robert W. Ramsey President
Howard C. Melsen Vice Pres
Freda L. Paice Secretary
Fred R. Wasson Treasurer

TRUSTEES Milton L. Grout, Fay Melsen, Ann Levanavich, Harley Perkins, June Perkins, Georgia Ramsey, Isabelle Swaffield, Helen M. Wasson, Caroline Weber, Benjamin Woo and Morrill A. Gatcomb (Immediate Past President).

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

C A L E N D A R

FEBRUARY 14 Monday 6:45 Planning Committee Meets
" " 8:00 Membership Meeting
" 21 " 8:00 Board Meeting

MARCH 1 - MARCH BULLETIN DEADLINE FOR COPY

MARCH 17 Friday 6:30 8th Annual Banquet
" 20 Monday 8:00 Board Meeting

FUNGI FANATICS MAJESTIZE MASTER MUSHROOM MENTOR IN MENDOCINO: TOADSTOOL TEACHER TRIUMPHANT, HEAPED WITH HUZZAHS...

The Daniel E. Stuntz Memorial Foray: isn't that grand sounding? Our Best Friend is so honored by the informal West Coast Mycological Group which took place in Mendocino County, California in December. Mycologists of standing from all Western states gathered in the wind and cold to swap tall spories and practice enobibbling.

Past forays have been held at Mt. Baker and Priest Lake. The next foray is planned for May in Oregon and will be the first unofficial official Daniel E. Stuntz Memorial Foray. For a change the nominee will get to enjoy his honor in person. Once more it is evident: mycology means longevity. And levity.



JOIN MUSHROOM-GILDING GUILD - DON'T FEEL GUILDY!

You all know that banquet tables take a lot of decorating. A Workshop will be held east of the lake this year on February 17, beginning at 7 pm, at Fern Sevoid's, 5447 - 125th S.E., Bellevue, SH 6 5791.

We're through saying Chairman for a woman evidently, (Chairone is in use, but how is it pronounced? Charwon or Chairown?) but to get on, Chairperson Angie Crawley would like you to show up with paper-cutting scissors, prepared to spend a jolly evening with others making decorations. Men are not excluded but they must cut their share and cannot expect to be oo'd and ah'd over.

If you Eastsiders like good company (and if you have any conscience at all), please call and tell Fern you are coming. Angie must come down from Marysville to direct this volunteer work and it would be a dirty shame for her not to have a good number on hand. (Editor's note: If there isn't a good turnout, you'll have to listen to me rave next month. This is a threat.

BOARD NOTES (SNOW-SLOWED) JANUARY 31, 1972

Banquet details under control by Carolyn Weber. Mystery guest must remain mystery because he may have to make unusual expedition at moment's notice, but we will know for sure by next bulletin.

Fay Melsen reports 802 paid up members, 12 complimentary member, 7 life members. Took 5½ hours to remove expired members from address file (a sad task, but that's life).

Decision made to inquire into cost of shoulder patches for PSMS members.

Contributions voted to organizations whose affiliated interests further our own:

Pacific Science Center - \$1,000
Pacific Search - 500
Washington Environmental Council - 200

Schedules are forming for Spring field trips.



NOMINEES so far... (Cont. from page 1)

For president: Howard Melsen	for board of trustees: Michel Allain	Helen Hewitt
" vice pres.: Fred Wasson	Cliff Carpenter	Charles Kessner
	Scott Chilton	Virginia Kessner
" treasurer: Helen Wasson	Dina Chybinski	Marcus Ohlson
" secretary: Helen Hewitt	Frank Colgrove	Harley Perkins
	Claude Dilly	June Perkins
	Milton Grout	Don Peterson
	James M. Hara	Charles Proctor
	Les Harris	Isabelle Waite

Each candidate is asked to submit a photo (or drawing) of himself and a 50-word summary of his life and works to date, or his philosophy of life, or a nice limerick if printable. No recipes, please. If you don't have a pic come to the next meeting—we may be able to take a shot at of you. Candidate info will be mailed with the ballot.

the common writer

"I rejoice to concur with the common reader, for by the common sense of readers...must be generally decided all claims." —Dr. Sam. Johnson

A few years ago a bunch of us High Mucky Mucks were sitting around drinking beer after a meeting, discussing high-toned stuff like the difference between a Club and a Society, and Why PSMS Chose to Put on a First Class Exhibit instead of a frowsty little bazaar. I made notes:

1. The easy way would be to be a Society the way anybody else would be satisfied with a Club - by doing things the natural way: thoughtlessly.
2. The difference between a Society and a Club is that a Club exists for its members and consists of whatever activities appeal to the members. A Society has a larger goal, a larger responsibility to the field in which it claims competence, and should be enhanced by the aggregate of its membership rather than being the average of the concerns of its members.
3. What turns people on is imagination - style and a little bit of far-out vision. When you window-shop, your eye is caught by windows which stimulate. The difference between stimulation and dullness is the execution, which should be done as well as you can, to set a standard to keep. *****

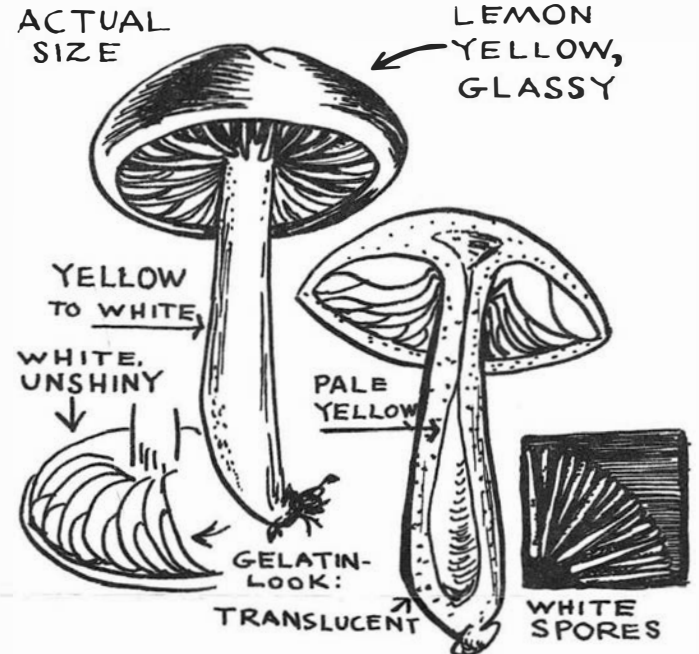
According to (my interpretation) of the Articles of Incorporation we came together innocently in the Garden of Mycology to aid in the advancement of knowledge and the pursuit of hobbiness, a turning outward of our varied talents to each other to celebrate the natural world of which humans are, so far, still a part.

Now finally here's the point: it really frosted me to see about 30% of the members at the last meeting walk out when nominations came up. Somebody always has to leave early, but that was mass desertion. I want you to stop freeloading and run for the Board. You can have fun, be innovative, etc. - see #3. If you reverence life you'll enjoy associating with other members and their secret hunting grounds.

Nominations close at February 14 meeting. Be our valentine - nominate yourself.

Otherwise you can expect me to ask you to step outside to settle our differences. Your choice of cliches.

-- Connie Calvert



Collected in mid-January (before the Big Snow) in the Arboretum and Seward Park, this cheerful little mushroom belongs to a colorful but benign genus characterized by a soapy look and (usually) rather thick, far-apart gills. Often visible through the semi-transparent lemon to egg-yolk-yellow cap, the ivory-like gills are adnate/adnex, may be somewhat thicker toward the stipe, and often lie overlapping one another and the shorter gills between. Because of variable gill characteristics, the genus doesn't key out neatly, and this particular off-season species does not appear in any of the commonly used textbooks. Consult your notes from Belle Swaffield's slide lecture at the November meeting to learn its name.

Λημερη: ομοιομορφους ομοιομορφους (ομοιομορφους)

"McIlvainea", the very first journal ever produced in this country entirely for the amateur mycologist is a welcome contribution of The North American Mycological Association. It is a tradition of the sciences to name journals after outstanding contributors to the field, and an outstanding triumph for an amateur.

President of NAMA Harry Knighton says, "Our journal was named for Charles McIlvaine who was one of the best known, cussed and discussed, loved and despised of all amateurs in this country. McIlvaine's devotion to mycophagy as well as mycology is legendary. While many contemporary mycologists (Atkinson) ignored or berated him, the greatest (Peck) admired and helped him."

NAMA welcomes your membership. For \$4 a year you receive their lively monthly newsletter "The Mycophile", as well as McIlvainea, participation in NAMA forays, schools, contests and buying or borrowing slide sets, etc.

The North American Mycological Assn.
4245 Redinger Road
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662



ECOLOGY CORNER (we're painting ourselves into it...)

Nothing, no single element, nothing in this world is inexhaustible. Nature can lick us every time, and in her dispassionate indignation she shows signs of succeeding every day. Some of are learning to work with other species, gradually. You have to start some place, as this lady has:

Fly catcher

From Lady Micklethwait

Sir, I have a splendid solution to the problem of flies in the kitchen... an industrious and cooperative spider, who has built a large web across the corner of my window.

Last week, when cleaning became necessary, I gently removed the web, placing near the spider a wasp which she had left in her larder and then cleaned the window very thoroughly. The spider remained motionless for so long that I feared I had ruined our

relationship. But the following morning a shining new web, 10 inches in diameter, had replaced the old one... no danger to health from aerosol spray, and more attractive than a fly-paper, since the little corpses are neatly wrapped and soon disappear.

Perhaps one day we shall learn to live with animals, even insects, not to fear and destroy them.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIPPA MICKLETHWAIT,
Llanthony, 71 Harvest Road,
Englefield Green, Surrey.

From The London Times, August 10, 1971



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

(Here's a letter from new members Don and Dixie Poirier, residents of Beaver Cove, B.C., which sounds like a grand place for a field trip, don't you think?)

Dear Friends: We live in a small logging camp on the East coast of Vancouver Island. This area is a muchroom hunter's paradise; it is as well a nature lover's paradise with clear fresh air and water and deep, dark, mushroomy forests. You frequently see deer, bear, beaver, otter, squirrels, raccoons, eagles. Don has seen swans, elk and two cougars to date.

Don has lived in this area for four years and I came here from Vancouver in February 1971, having just been married on Valentine's Day. Each new season brought a new interest. With Spring came wildflowers and other plants, in Summer came fishing, swimming and a budding interest in mushrooms; in Fall our interest in fungi 'mushroomed'. Then of course we just had to have a camera!

On our first few collecting trips we were so enthusiastic that we collected long after dark, depending on the truck headlights to show up fungi that grew along the banks of an old logging road. We would collect so many species each time that it began to be frustrating trying to classify them all. And at first our meager literature on fungi was doubly frustrating. Now we collect only a few specimens at a time and it is much more rewarding. We can afford to do this because of the close proximity of our mushroom hunting grounds.

We were fortunate in having about ten different types right in our own yard, however the woods were so alluring we did not get around to identifying a single mushroom in the yard. They were all rather tiny and dull and we were off in search of more interesting game. Come Spring, we won't make the same mistake; a neighbor told us he found morels growing just behind his house.

Yours truly,
Don and Dixie Poirier

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES DEPARTMENT

The Maginot Line, France's highly touted impregnable defense in World War II (those of you who remember Vic and Sade will remember World War II) is being auctioned off piecemeal for summer retreats. A few bunkers were sold off several years ago to mushroom growers.