

# SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2161 East Hamlin, Seattle, Wa. 98112

September 1980

Number 164



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carl Hermanson

The fall mushroom season has arrived. I hear that Cantharellus cibarius have been found around Sultan since mid-August and our needed fall rains appear to have started earlier than usual. Perhaps, Mount Saint Helens' eruptions have changed our weather pattern sufficiently to provide more moisture this year.

Spring fruiting of Morchella species and Boletus edulis was exceptional this year - so perhaps a super-abundant fall mushroom season is starting.

Winston Hufford has been active all summer making arrangements for our 17th Annual Exhibit which will be held at the Flag Pavilion on the grounds of the Seattle Center. Ben Woo has designed a unique layout, emphasizing spaciousness and utilizing the windows of the Flag Pavilion for greater public visibility. Stan March already is in the midst of creating a sizeable amount of advertising material, i.e., posters, news-releases, etc. But we all need to get in and assist these hard-working people, they cannot do it alone. A list of the names and phone numbers of committee chairmen appears in this bulletin. Please call at least one of them today.

I am very excited about our new location and feel the public will receive our 1980 Annual Exhibit - The Greatest Mushroom Show on Earth - enthusiastically!

## THE 17TH ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Winston Hufford

We have been writing about our coming Annual Exhibit since the spring, and frankly I am a little worried. We are going it all on our own this year; we are holding it a week early this year; and we will be in a new location. However, I consider all these points a challenge, and hope all of our members will do the same. The bigger Flag Pavilion can hold more people, and we can spread out the tables over a larger area. Ben Woo has designed the new layout, and it looks terrific. During the summer I took care of the requirements the City of Seattle has of exhibitors: talk to the fire chief; license department, catering, etc.

But now comes the time when all the committees listed below get into action. And they depend on YOU, our members to help accomplish the work. If you have never worked on an Exhibit, you don't know what you have been missing! First of all, you get to know your fellow PSMS members, and secondly, you get the tremendous feeling of accomplishment when you see the curious and starry-eyed visitors walk through the display. Basically, we have a job for every member, even if you think you don't have any talent. The chairman of a committee knows the ropes, and will gladly tell you what to do. So don't hesitate, and pick up the phone and call one of the chairmen right now, don't wait till the September membership meetings.

Since the fall rains have already arrived there should be plenty of mushrooms available. At least this is one of the worries I don't need to have this year.

## 1980 ANNUAL EXHIBIT COMMITTEES

Winston Hufford

General Chairman

ARTS & CRAFTS	Florence Mals Bernice Velatequi	878 - 2708
BOOK SALES	Kathy Ringo Michael Westby	784 - 9630
COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION		
FREEZE DRY	Dr. Patricia Winter	486 - 4264
GREENERY	Paul Rule	1-794 - 8987
HOSTESS	Laurel Hufford	481 - 8459
IDENTIFICATION	Charles Volz	363 - 5465
LABELING	Helena Kirkwood	784 - 1095
MEMBERSHIP	Grace Jones	772 - 5024
MUSHROOM COLLECTION		
MUSHROOM RECEIVING	Ed & Ella Cantelon	242 - 6115
PHOTO & SLIDE SHOW	Joy & Roger Spurr	723 - 2759
POSTER PLACEMENT	Claude Dilly	782 - 8511
PRESERVATION	Jennie Schmitt	1-876 - 3177
PUBLICITY	Stan March Dennis Krabbenhoft	885 - 0375 839 - 2454
SECURITY	Earl Harrison	932 - 1612
SORTING BOXES	Jim Bennett	784 - 6236
TRAY ARRANGEMENT	Margaret Dilly	782 - 8511

## MUSHROOM CLASS STARTS SEPTEMBER 16, 1980

Milton Grout's ever popular course on mushroom identification will start on Tuesday, September 16, 1980 at 7:00 pm in the Museum of History and Industry. There will be total of six sessions (but they will not be on consecutive Tuesdays, so watch Spore Prints for the dates). This course is strongly recommended as a basic course for beginners, but also an excellent review for others. At a cost of \$6 for the six meetings, it is a value hard to beat. It is not too early to make plans for this class, since only 40 members can be accommodated. Registration will be on the first meeting night. Learn the distinguishing characteristics of mushrooms and how to classify species by spore color. Learn to make a spore print. Learn common poisonous and edible mushrooms. Learn collecting techniques.

Fresh specimens directly from the field will be identified and discussed. All participants in the class are requested to bring specimens, and first half hour will be spent on identification.

—Additional mushroom classes are listed on page 4—

## SHIITAKE ANYONE

Mycophile

Often called the Oak Tree Mushroom, this mycophagist's delight has been grown in Japan for many years. It is said that one can produce over 500 lbs. from a cord of oak wood. These sell on the market for about \$3 per lb. fresh and \$15 per lb. dried. A kit with an instruction booklet, a drill bit and 500 spawn chips sells for \$26.50. The instruction booklet alone is \$2.50. Write to: Dr. Yoo Farm, Dept. 38, Box 290, College Park, Maryland, 20740.



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% The Museum of History and Industry, 2161 E. Hamlin,  
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Hildegard Hendrickson, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, 98115.

OFFICERS Carl Hermanson, President, 1982 (1)  
Rick White, Vice-President, 1981 (1)  
Earl Harrison, Treasurer, 1982 (2)  
Margaret Holzbauer, Secretary, 1981 (1)

TRUSTEES - Term expires March 1981  
Margaret Dilly (1); Grace Jones (1); Dennis  
Krabbenhoft (1); Tom McKnight (1); Agnes  
Sieger (1).  
Term expires March 1982  
Margo Harrison (2); Rudy Karzmar (1);  
LomNee March (2); Stan March (1); Don  
Schultz (1). Jennie Schmitt (imm. past pres.)

ALTERNATES: John Kunz; Del Miller; Agnes Suit.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISER Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

## Calendar

- Sept. 6 & 7 Fieldtrip to the Masonic Park
- Sept. 8 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm
- Sept. 12 Deadline for Spore Print material. Send arti-  
cles, art work, photos, etc. to the Editor,  
2559 NE 96th, Seattle, Wa., 98115
- Sept. 13 & 14 Fieldtrip to the Soda Springs Forest Camp
- Sept. 16 Tuesday, First Meeting of the Fall Mushroom  
Class at the Museum, 7:00 pm
- Sept. 20 & 21 Fieldtrip to the Crystal Springs Forest Camp
- Sept. 22 Monday, Board Meeting, 8:00 pm
- Sept. 27 & 28 Fieldtrip to the Dalles Forest Camp
- Sept. 29 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm  
NOTE: this date is not our regular meeting  
date, but the meeting is necessary be-  
cause of the early date of our Annual  
Exhibit.
- Sept. 30 Tuesday, Second Meeting of the Fall Mushroom  
Class at the Museum
- Oct. 4 & 5 The 17th ANNUAL EXHIBIT in the Flag Pavilion  
on the grounds of the Seattle Center.

THERE WILL NOT BE A MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

## Membership Meeting

Monday, September 8, 1980, 8:00 pm in the McCurdy Room  
of the Museum of History and Industry.

Program: Jennie Schmitt, immediate past president of our  
Society is going to give a slide-illustrated lecture on the  
genus *Pholiota*. Jennie is a member of the Northwest Key  
Council and has chosen to study this genus and develop a  
macroscopic key for identification.

### BOARD NEWS

H.R.H.

President Hermanson brought the trustees up to date about the  
developments of the summer months. PSMS has successfully  
renewed its liability insurance policy and will be able to add  
a rider for the Show (something the City requires for events  
at the Seattle Center). This policy protects the Society in  
case somebody sues us for "malpractice" in the identification  
of fungi, etc.

Also during the summer months organizational meetings were  
held for the sponsoring of the NAMA National Foray in 1981  
in our area. Ben Woo and Dick Sieger will be co-chairmen  
for the foray.

Winston Hufford attended the meeting and reported about the  
preparations for the Annual Exhibit. He said that after some  
clarification, it will be easy for us to meet the fire depart-  
ment regulations in the Pavilion. However, we still are told  
that we cannot bring and eat any kind of food in the Pavilion  
in spite of the fact that supposedly the Food Circus will be  
completely closed down on October 1st for remodeling.  
There was not an overwhelming response from artists to dis-  
play at the Exhibit that the Board voted to not have any kind  
of art displays. We will have book sales. Most other activi-  
ties are progressing normally. A list of the committees and  
who chairs them, appears in another section of this issue.  
Dick Sieger presented the dates and places for the early field-  
trips, and after considerable discussion it was decided to  
make an all-out appeal to the members to volunteer for host  
duties during the fieldtrips so that we can continue them in  
the format in which we have held them in the past. There  
will be sign-up sheets during the meeting, so that old and  
new members can volunteer.

### BITS AND PIECES

H.R.H.

The fieldtrip to the Tumwater Forest Camp (5/31 - 6/1) was  
an outstanding success in every way. The hosts, Ruth & Del  
Miller outdid themselves using all utensils from their trailer  
(since the fieldtrip stuff did not arrive) and even had enough  
supplies left over from the fishing trip the previous week,  
which had taken them to the Okanagan. It goes without say-  
ing that the potluck was the best ever. I don't have the  
full count of specimens found, but can tell you that everyone  
found *Boletus edulis*, and right in camp a large clump of *Llyo-*  
*phyllum multiceps* was fruiting, which is supposed to come in  
the fall.

Received a letter from Joy and Lyle McKnight telling us that  
they are back in the East (42 Cool Breeze Dr., Baltimore,  
Md 21220). This time they are living in their trailer close to  
Lyle's work, and in their spare time taking in the historic  
sites.

... "found Matsutake in late July and August" ... was the  
report from one of our members. The area remains a secret,  
but the elevation was at sea-level.

While many western Washington people are thinking that the arrival of fall rain means the start of a dreary winter, we mushroom hunters eagerly look forward to another harvest. We have some of the world's best hunting a short distance from home and have some exciting times ahead this fall. Mt. St. Helens' impact on our usual hunting sites has so far been minimal and we will again have a full schedule of field trips.

It may be necessary to make last minute changes in our schedule so please check the classified ads in the Seattle newspapers before you attend a field trip. We will advertise changes in the "825 TRAVEL" section in the Seattle Times and in the "740-TRAVEL" section in the Seattle Post Intelligencer on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday before the trip. There will be no notice if the trip is being held as scheduled.

As fuel costs increase, it becomes more important to share a ride with another member. Those of you who need rides or who can provide rides should call me.

We again need hosts for all of our trips. New members are encouraged to call me to volunteer. You will meet other members and can learn a great deal about mushrooms. You will help with the reception table on Saturday or Sunday and all of the equipment will be provided along with instructions. Mushroom identification is not part of the job. If we have no host for a field trip, please gather at the campsite on Saturday afternoon for a 5:30 pot luck dinner.

To volunteer to host, to share a ride, to give suggestions and complaints, to get information about field trips, call Dick Sieger at 362-6860.

Sept. 6 & 7 Masonic Park: Four miles east of Granite Falls. Go to Snohomish and follow State Highway #9 (north) to the turn-off (east) to State Highway #92. Follow #92 east to Granite Falls and continue east toward Verlot for about four miles. Watch for the sign that directs you to turn left to Masonic Park. At the registration desk, PSMS will collect a day use fee of 50¢ per person or a \$2.00 per vehicle overnight fee. The park is open to non-Masons only on this weekend. The entrance gate is closed after 9:00 pm and no one may enter or leave after this. We hope to find chantrelles.

Sept. 13 & 14 Soda Springs: Travel east on State Highway #410 over Chinook Pass. About 17 miles past the summit, turn right onto the Bumping Lake road #174 and continue for about five miles to Soda Springs Forest Camp. Ashfall was light at the Soda Springs campground, heavier at Bumping Lake and almost absent at the American River campground. We will look for chantrelles and Boletus edulis or Armillaria ponderosa.

Sept. 20 & 21 Crystal Springs: Travel on I-90 east over Snoqualmie Pass. Nine miles past the summit,

take the "Stampede Pass" exit #62. Turn right at the stop sign, then right again just before the bridge. We often find Boletus edulis, Leccinum aurantiacum, and Armillaria ponderosa.

Sept. 27 & 28 The Dalles: Travel east on State Highway #410. The Dalles Forest Camp is about 25 miles south east of Enumclaw, on the right. Pot hunters will look for all of the good fall species, especially Rozites caperatus, the gypsy.

#### MYCOLOGY SPOKEN HERE

Dick Sieger

##### Specific epithet

This is the second word in the name of a botanical species. "Lepiota americana," for example, is the name of the species, or the specific name. "Lepiota" is the name of the genus, or the generic name, and "americana" is the specific epithet.

Two centuries ago, Carl Linnaeus devised our modern system of naming plants. Before then, a plant was named by giving the name of the group to which it belonged, followed by characteristics that set it apart: "Lepiota, large, brown scales, from America." This was clumsy and could be ambiguous. Linnaeus started using a group name and a number followed by a single descriptive word. For example, "Lepiota 152 americana." Fortunately for everyone he later stopped using numbers, and we now have a clean, standard way to name plants that is used all over the world.



#### WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Kent K. Knock, phone 782-7456; George L. Smith, Tacoma Bob & Georgia Ramsey's correct phone number is 588 - 6955.

#### PREVIEW FOR THE NOVEMBER 1980 MEETING

When Jennie and Dave Schmitt returned from the summer-long travels in the East and Colorado, they told us that Dr. Alexander H. Smith and his wife, Dr. Helen V. Smith, will be attending our November membership meeting, and Dr. A.H. will present a talk: "Fifty Years of Chasing Mushrooms." For our new members, Dr. Alexander Smith is Professor Emeritus of Mycology of the University of Michigan, and the author, and co-author with his wife, of numerous mycological publications.

Mushrooms of Idaho and the Pacific Northwest, Discomycetes by Edmund E. Tylutki (The University Press of Idaho, \$5.95) is a hundred thirty-two page paperback guide to the group that includes morels, cup fungi, earth tongues and saddle fungi. There are excellent black and white photographs and thorough macroscopic and microscopic descriptions that will please both beginning and advanced mushroom hunters. Some fine keys are included as well as brief sections about the development of the discomycetes and their microscopic features. Many of the fungi included in this book are not found in other field guides and a lot of information is packed into this small, inexpensive book. (Reviewed by Dick Sieger)

## CLASSES IN THE NORTH END

Charles Volz

Starting September 29th, and running for six weeks, there will be classes on mushroom identification held at the Edmonds Recreation Center.

And on Wednesday, October 1st, and also lasting for six weeks, classes will be held at the Lynwood Recreation Center.

Charles Volz (phone 363 - 5465) will be the instructor for both of the above classes. You may call him for details.

## MYCOLOGY CLASSES IN THE SOUTH END G. Rafanelli

This fall there will be classes in mycology held at Sealth Highschool (starting Tuesday, September 23rd) and at Rainier Beach Highschool (starting Wednesday, September 24.) The classes will run from 7 - 9 pm, and meet 8 consecutive weeks.

For additional information consult the South Seattle Community College Bulletin or call George Rafanelli (767 - 4408) who is the instructor for both classes.

## MUSHROOMS II - AN EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

This conference will be held Oct. 30 - Nov. 2, 1980 at an undisclosed site in the San Juan Islands. It is expressly designed for those interested in developing their identification skills and furthering their understanding of the taxonomy, chemistry, cultivation, and ecology of mushrooms. Emphasis will be placed on the delineation of edible, poisonous, and psychoactive species. Registration is \$100. For further information write to Myco Media, P.O. Box 7701, Olympia, Wa., 98507.

## MUSHROOM WAR

Mycophile

A mushroom war occurred in Canada last season. In the village of Masset, Queen Charlotte Islands, a local physician treated a severely beaten man who had been tied up in a tree for more than four hours, and another with an arrow in his leg. This war was caused by hallucinogenic mushrooms which are prolific throughout the islands. The local Haida Indians resent the influx of alternate lifestyles and outsiders who sell the dried mushrooms for very high prices. The police are plagued with both, those hunting the fungi for kicks, and those hunting for profit. Several of the latter ones have been assaulted and the local hospitals have had trouble with those eating the fungi, and thereafter "flying" through the windows. Possession of hallucinogenic fungi is not illegal in Canada (it is in the State of Washington, ed.) and the local papers often carry offers to buy these during the collecting season.

## AGARICUS AUGUSTUS

Ed Cantelon

Agaricus augustus, his highness: The Prince, is true royalty in the mushroom kingdom. This mushroom is considered by many persons to be the finest of them all. Its flavor and texture is superior to its close relatives, the ones found in the grocery store (Agaricus bisporus), and Agaricus campestris (often called "pink bottom") which is found in open fields and meadows, and often in lawns too.

The Prince, much like the coyote, has not become domesticated, but has adapted to civilization. You will find the Prince in flower beds, lawns, and along roadsides. It often begins to fruit in July and will continue fruiting until late fall. If the place where it is found can be kept watered, fruiting will continue for a longer period of time. The Prince will appear

as a single mushroom, but comes up more often in great clusters. Specimens with a cap measuring 18 inches in diameter have been found. The Prince is one of the very few mushrooms that thrive on the warm temperatures of midsummer.

The scales on the cap are quite conspicuous; they may be light brown or egg yolk yellow. The ring on the stem (annulus) is felt-like. The cap is usually flat on top before it is fully opened. The gills are pallid, perhaps we should say "cream color" at first; at maturity the gills turn purple-brown. The spore color also is purple brown. Most persons detect an odor of either anise or almond in this mushroom. If you smell a pungent odor something like creosote, the specimen in hand is not the Prince. As is often the case in the world of mushrooms, there is a look-alike that should be avoided.



The above specimens were found in the yard of our members, Ray and Ethel Lind. They were growing in the open in their lawn near a black locust tree. The Linds were apprehensive when they learned that this picture might appear in Spore Prints. Like all mushroom hunters, they felt that there might be parking problems.

## MYCOLOGICAL HERALDRY

Ole Rostock, the Secretary of the Scandinavian Heraldry Society - and a lover of mushrooms - went through the keys of about 150,000 European coats-of-arms and found 15 with mushrooms. Of these, eight are French, two German, and one each English, Belgian, Swiss, Italian and Polish. It was not possible to establish a definite connection between all the family names and the fact that mushrooms appear in the arms, but several suggestions seem credible. The Italian family Fongarini brings to mind that fungo means mushroom in that language. Lesseps may well be a homophone of les cepes, what the French call Boletus edulis. Boulet resembles the French pronunciation of bolete, and the Moreau pointedly display morels. The black truffle so emphatically displayed in the Rabasse arms is quite straight-forward, since rabasse is Provençal for truffles.

Most of the mushrooms represented could be either agarics or boletes. The colors indicated are of little help since they are mainly gold or silver. From the information available it has not been possible to establish a definite date for the origin of the arms, but they possibly date to the 16th or 17th century (Mr. Rostock's article appeared in the publication of the Boston Mycological Club).