

SPORE PRINTS

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



THINK SURVIVORS BANQUET

March 1983

Number 190

ELECTIONS 1983

Earl Harrison

This issue of Spore Prints reaches you a little earlier than usual, because it is serving as our ELECTION NOTICE

Included you will find your official ballot(s) and return envelope for your vote. Remember, a family membership entitles you to two votes, and a single and student membership to one vote.

Please return your marked ballot in the addressed envelope provided and have it in the mail by Saturday, March 12th.

The election committee has presented to you a slate of excellent, capable, and enthusiastic candidates. Their pictures and brief statements appear on pages 3 and 4.

We urge all members to VOTE for the candidates of their choice, and return the ballots postmarked no later than Saturday, March 12th, 1983.

FIELD TRIPS

Charles Volz

When you read this bulletin the weather may not yet convey "spring" and "mushrooms". But we try to schedule our learning (one-day only) field trip at the earliest date possible, so that you may then enjoy a long spring mushroom season.

Rain or shine, mushrooms or no mushrooms, this first field trip will be held on Saturday, March 19th

March 19 Saturday only - no potluck dinner at this trip!
Bring your lunch.

MacDonald County Park = Tolt River Park. This park is located a half mile south of Carnation in King County. Enter the park via NE 40th Street from Highway #203 to get to the parking lot for the day-use area of the park. Cross the suspension bridge (over the Snoqualmie River) to get to the shelter (which is on the west side of the river). Arrive by 9:00 AM since there will be a lecture by Monte Hendrickson on how to recognize the cottonwood trees under which the early morels grow. After the lecture, Monte will lead the hunt. Be sure to bring rain gear, a basket, and wear sturdy shoes. PSMS provides coffee and cookies.

April 9 & 10 Steelhead County Park in Rockport.
Directions and details in the next issue.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED TO HELP ON THE BANQUET

Charlotte Turner-Zila

All members who volunteered to help on the 1983 Banquet will soon get a call for a meeting to finalize all assignments. This will be on short notice, but we hope everyone understands and will come.

FLASH - THE MORELS ARE HERE

M.M.H.

While scouting to "guess" the "right" day for the learning field trip, we found no Verpa bohemica, no fallen cottonwood husks, but 13 Morchella conica, the largest 3" tall, identified and verified by Dr. Stuntz on Feb. 20th.

CLASS IN ALPINE FUNGI AND LICHENS

Fred Rhoades, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225, Phone: (206) 676-3000, is offering a Summer Session in Alpine Fungi and Lichens. The 3-credit course will involve 3 weekend collecting trips into the North Cascades. Weekend lectures and laboratory exercises will introduce the beginner to basic principles of mycology. The prerequisite for the course is a year of Introductory Biology. The dates are July 29 through August 19, 1983. Write Fred Rhoades for further information.

NEW DRYING PROCEDURE RETAINS COLOR OF FUNGI

Dr. James Trappe writes in the Nov./Dec. 1982 issue of Mycologia (74(6):1014) about an effective new method for drying fungi and controlling insects in herbaria. This technique uses an electric dehumidifier placed in an unvented cabinet. If one maintains (within 2%) a relative humidity of 38% and an air temperature of 70°F. (21°C.) most fungi will dry in complete possession of all the vividness of color they had when they were fresh. (Although not all pigments found in fungi are stable at 21°C., most are.) Retention of pigments will be a major advance in the study of fungi.

Dr. Trappe's article also deals with the preservation of the dried collections. He discusses successful results, after six years of testing, with insect pest strips containing 2,2-dichlorovinyl phosphate. Trappe reported successful results in using 1/2 strip per cabinet lasting up to six months in control of insects.

The dried fungi in an herbarium are stored in cardboard boxes with naphthalene added as deterrent for the fungus munchers. This is a satisfactory method except for the strong odor. To successfully preserve your dried edible mushrooms, be sure they are in an airtight container, so no insects and/or moisture can enter, or you will have to share them with the little critters.

THE FECUNDITY OF FUNGI

A single mature fruiting body of Ganoderma applanatum (the artists' fungus), a wood-rotting fungus of the temperate regions, is estimated to liberate 25.4 trillion spores over a period of six months. This amounts to 30 billion per day, 1.25 billion per hour or 21 million a minute, and 350,000 per second. Taken from C.M. Christensen, "The Molds and Man" (via Mt. Mazama Mycographia).

MUSHROOM SAGACITY

Mycena News

Robert George, Anamosa, Iowa, offers these tips to Iowa "Shroomers": "When asked where you find your mushrooms, lie about the location unless a real mushroom fan asks you. Tell him the truth because he'll think you are lying and will never look there anyway. Wear a disguise when going mushrooming. Take along a fishing pole or gun so others won't know your true mission. Spy on other mushroomers, but be wary for they will spy on you too."



P. S. M. S. Spore Prints

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Direct all mail to this address.

OFFICERS Milton Grout, President, 1984 (1)
John Kunz, Vice-President, 1983 (1)
Ferris Anderson, Treasurer, 1984 (1)
Margaret Holzbauer, Secretary, 1983 (2)

TRUSTEES - Term expires March 1983: Hildegard Hendrickson (1); Monte Hendrickson (1); Grace Jones (2); Dennis Krabbenhoft (2); Agnes Sieger (2).

- Term expires March 1984: Kearney Kozai(1)
Marian Maxwell (1); Richard Pauli (1); Don Schultz (2); Charles Volz (1).

ALTERNATES: Ernie Boa; Judi Boa; Charlotte Turner-Zila.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Carl Hermanson

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR: Dr. Daniel E. Stuntz

Calendar

March 12 Saturday - last day to mail the election ballots.

March 18 Friday - The 19th Annual Survivors Banquet will be held at the MONROE CENTER. 6:30 pm.
This is the Annual Meeting of the Society.

NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS HELD IN MARCH

March 19 Saturday - Learning Field Trip to MacDonald Park near Carnation.

March 21 Monday - Board Meeting, 7:30 pm Monroe Center

March 25 Deadline for Spore Print Material. Send to the Editor, 2559 NE 96th, Seattle, WA 98115

April 9 & 10 Fieldtrip to Rockport

April 11 Monday, Membership Meeting, 8:00 pm

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Joan Clever; Jon & Patty Donovan; Annie Fineman; Buck McAdoo; Douglas E. Ross & JoAnne L. Faucett.

PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR THE CLITOCYBE MONOGRAPH

It seems that we will soon have the necessary 20 copies that have to be ordered to obtain the monograph: North American Species of Clitocybe, Part I. by Howard E. Bigelow. Call Judi Boa (725-1235) to place your order. Price is \$25.00

Membership Meeting

Friday, March 18th, the date for this year's Annual Meeting and Survivors Banquet of PSMS is fast approaching. Again we continue the tradition adopted by our founders and celebrate the survival of a successful hunting season by holding a banquet.

This year our banquet chairman, Charlotte Turner-Zila is taking a new approach: The Banquet will be entirely put on by our membership (including the preparation of the food) at our regular meeting place, the auditorium of the Monroe Center.

All the committees are hard at work (there still might be some help needed, especially for serving the meal; if you can help call Charlotte at 325-1519, and she will assign you to a job) and progress is right on schedule.

The festivities will start with the Presidents' Reception at 6:30 pm. During this social hour, while the members and guests can enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages, they also have the opportunity to meet the current and past presidents of our Society, as well as charter and life-time members, i.e. the members who helped found PSMS and those whose contributions have brought it to its present size and stature.

At 7:15 pm we will sit down to a gourmet meal which will include several courses with wild mushrooms.

After dinner we will hear an address by Dr. H.B. Tukey, Jr. who is Professor and Director of the Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington. The Center is the first academic program in the United States concerned with research, teaching, and public service on the use of plants to maintain and enhance urban environments. He also is President-Elect of the International Society for Horticultural Science. The election chairman will announce the results of the 1983 elections, and the drawing of door prizes will conclude the evening.

The Banquet is sold out. A waiting list is being maintained, and cancellations will be accepted until Monday, March 14 which will then be available for members on the waiting list.

No tickets will be sent; upon arriving at the Monroe Center your name will be checked off the reservation list and you will be given a name-tag.

Mushroom donations are still needed. Donations of frozen chanterelles, dried or frozen boletes, morels, and matsutake are requested. Call either 325-1519 or 523-2892 to arrange for delivery and/or pick up.

Some members have already promised to bring hors d'oeuvres. We hope that all will consider it a challenge to bring tasty and mushroom inspired treats for the reception!

Note! Those members who do not wish to attend the Banquet or could not get tickets, but would like to be present for the business meeting and the after-dinner address, are welcome to arrive at the Monroe Center at 8:30 pm when this portion of our Annual Meeting takes place. In past years we were not able to offer this option since the facilities where we held the Banquet were not large enough to accommodate all. But since this is our Annual Meeting we want to give everyone the opportunity to attend. Dr. Tukey has the reputation of an excellent public speaker, who will address us on a topic of interest to all of our members.

See you all at the Monroe Center on Friday, March 18, 1983.

California, with its wide variety of habitats, has something over 150 recognized species of ants within its boundaries. It is no wonder, then, that among these are at least three species which are able to cultivate fungi. How did this come about?

Entomologists speculate that a reasonable explanation can be found in the fact that most ants are liquid caters. Ants take solid food into their mouths, and most put the food they eat into a pouch in the lower part of their mouth. Ants lick and clean themselves and each other frequently. During this combing, all dirt, pollen, and spores enter the mouth pocket. In this pocket, solids are dissolved, liquid is swallowed, and the remains are cast out - usually in a particular rest area of the nest which is moist and warm. In these areas we can often find the spores and mycelium of many different fungi.

Ants are members of the family Formicidae Latreille, with those belonging to the Attini, fungus-growers, in the sub-family Myrmicinae Lepeletier. Only two genera and three species of the above subfamily are known to occur in California according to Thomas Wrentmore Cook, author of The Ants of California.



Acromyrmex versicolor Pergande, of the genus Acromyrmex Mayr, has been collected near Calamajuit in Lower California and is apparently only known from dry canyons in desert regions. The two fungi-eating members of the genus Cyphomyrmex Mayr, reported by Cook to occur in Southern California, are C. rimosus var. comalensis Wheeler and C. wheeleri Forel. According to Cook, members of this genus are known to form small colonies of less than 200 members, with the largest of these having one or more queens. The nests, usually found close to the surface under a rock or a piece of wood, are irregularly tunneled and include fungus-growing chambers. The food consists of both the mycelium and the fruiting bodies, the choice varying with the species.

The fungus is cultivated on the moist droppings of caterpillars or other large insects. It is said by Cook that the fungus - growing ants of California have specialized to such a degree that if the fungus happened to die, the ants would most likely perish also. (This article appeared in the bulletin of the San Francisco Mycological Society).

GOLF HAZARD

Connecticut Mycol. Assn.

We have the account of a jurisdictional dispute that took place on a golf course during a local tournament. The player in question drove his tee shot into the rough, then took a mighty swing at what he thought to be his ball. It was not. It was a mushroom: Calvatia gigantea (or puffball) and it spattered all over the landscape. The real ball was found several yards away. An argument arose as to whether the golfer should be charged with a penalty stroke. The decision was truly Solomonic. The judges declared that the rules apply to swings addressed to a ball. Nothing is said about hitting a mushroom - or anything else. No penalty. So what do you call this swing? "It was a practice swing," explained our golfer.

KEYS TO THE GENERA OF HIGHER FUNGI

by Robert L. Shaffer, 131 pp., not illustrated, \$4.50 post paid from Herbarium, University of Michigan, North University Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109.

This is a paperback with dichotomous keys beginning with classes of Ascomycetes and Basidiomycetes and keying to sub-classes, orders, families, and genera (and sections of genera). Each genus is succinctly described and replete with data for microscopic observation. If you own a microscope, this book is a must.

PHOTO TIP #8

Joy Spurr

The popular use for a self-timer on the camera is to focus, set speed and aperture, set the self-timer, push the release button and run like "you-know-what" to get yourself in the picture. But this little mechanism on your camera should be used more often to help you get sharp-focus pictures. With camera mounted on the tripod, I use the self-timer to stop camera movement when I am photographing stationary subjects such as mineral specimens, ceramics, glassware, sturdy mushrooms and even some scenics.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICES FOR P.S.M.S. 1983

ELECTION INFORMATION: Remember that each individual membership is entitled to just one vote. Each family membership is entitled to just two votes. (P.S.M.S. By Laws, Article IV., Section 3).

FOR VICE - PRESIDENT



JOHN KUNZ

Incumbent vice-president; since joining PSMS in 1979 I have participated in as many activities as possible: computerized PSMS mailing list; organized last spring's workshop; Degrees in economics and psychology; independent computer consultant; I am particularly interested in furthering the educational endeavors of our Society; I am presently assisting in the revision of the educational book of PSMS.

FOR SECRETARY



BETTY HAMILTON

Member since 1975; have participated in many field trips; learned a lot and particularly enjoyed the potluck dinners for the good food and good fellowship; have worked on every annual exhibit in the book sales department; since I am a legal secretary by training, I want to offer my skills to PSMS; in my spare time I enjoy bowling, sewing and knitting.

BELOW ARE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - VOTE for a total of 5 -



ERNIE BOA

An enthusiastic "Sherlock Holmes" - be it fair weather or foul - of the delicate treats of the forest; welder by profession; hobbies are gardening and camping, especially pleasurable PSMS field trips; joined in 1980 to learn all I can; presently alternate trustee and co-chairman (with wife Judi) of PSMS book sales enjoy the company of others who love mushrooms and want to help newcomers get a good start.



JUDI BOA

As an ex-Seattle Police Officer I try to slow down my "Sherlock Holmes," but his enthusiasm captures all of us; I love all outdoor activities, but still have time to cook up a storm, sew, re-finish old wood, etc.; I love fascinating new experiences and the challenge of finding the delectable fungi. As book sales co-chairman I try to have current books for our members and want to get even more involved and make PSMS as rewarding for all members as it has been for me

Member since 1981 Exhibit; helped with the 1982 Show and am member of the Education Committee; am very interested in the educational & scientific activities of PSMS; hobbies include jewelry making; gardening; camera collecting & photography; I have over 19 years experience as a math and biology teacher, professional librarian and Community College Administrator; currently I am indexing all issues of Spore Prints by topics.



EDWARD A. BUSH

My hobbies include silversmithing, lapidary, science fiction, collecting cameras & photography, music, gardening, and now also the study of mushrooms - another interest I didn't need, but I love it. I have enjoyed the friendliness and knowledge sharing by our members. It sure spreads enthusiasm. The field trips and classes are fascinating learning experiences. I want to serve on the Board and continue to help other members derive such beneficial experiences.



PATRICIA NESSL BUSH



EDITH GODAR

Moved to this area in 1980 and joined PSMS in October; assisted with the 1982 Show; I would like to do more for the Society in repayment for the educational programs, field trips, and potlucks; I have been an industrial research chemist and college teacher. Hobbies include gardening, clock repairing, French and Chinese cooking.



SALLY ANN HANSEN

Became a member when I got hooked at the 1971 Exhibit. Worked on show decorations, and handled membership on an interim basis; was PSMS Secretary in 1977; I have taken Milt's class; have an A.A. Degree in Natural Science; currently working as an insurance agent; after returning to Seattle, I again want to become more involved in our Society.

Academician (finance and economics) by profession; mushroomer, camper and gardener by avocation. PSMS member since 1972; incumbent trustee, and your editor since 1974. I want to stay active and participate in the setting of Society policies, especially as they pertain to membership and education and field trips.



HILDEGARD HENDRICKSON

Member since 1972; incumbent trustee; associate editor; my current involvement in the beginners' class convinced me to support this activity in the future; I also want to continue as a guide for beginners at fieldtrips so they protect the environment and become proficient in collecting and identifying mushrooms; additional hobbies include photography; electronics; woodworking and gardening



MONTE HENDRICKSON



RON SKOOR

Born in Seattle; attended Queen Anne High; Los Angeles City College; for over 40 years a Teamster, now retired; Elder & Church Treasurer for over 20 years; professional sports official for 22 years; enjoy camping and out-of-doors, that's why I joined PSMS. Since retirement I have more time to devote to PSMS and want to get more involved, especially in field trips



CHARLOTTE TURNER-ZILA

Joined PSMS 1980 and was chasing morels on the day of Mt. St. Helens big eruption; I did anthropological & archeological research here and abroad currently alternate trustee & survivors banquet chairman; have helped on every Exhibit; have learned a lot in classes and on field trips. I would consider it a privilege to continue to serve our Society where I am needed.