

# SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
Monroe Center, 1810 N.W. 65th St., Seattle, WA 98117

March 1986

Number 220



## 22nd ANNUAL SURVIVORS' BANQUET

Brian Read

Final preparations are under way for the 22nd Annual Survivors' Banquet. This year's banquet is at Quinn's at Shilshole on Friday, March 14th. Festivities will commence at 6:30 p.m. with the president's reception. Dinner will be at 7:30 p.m.

So far, ticket sales have lagged behind previous years. I hope that many more of you will be able to attend this traditional Society event, which combines the March meeting with an excellent meal and an enjoyable social evening. Tickets will be available until March 11th by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a check for \$16.00 per ticket to

Brian Read  
12827 1st Ave. N.E.  
Seattle, WA 98125

Entertainment for the evening will be by the local blue grass group "Sage Grass." Other events of note will be the election results and introduction of the new Officers and Trustees.

Come on down, and experience first hand a fun evening with fellow members.



## BRZLÍKY S HOUBAMI

Marie Rosický  
[Bohemian-American Cook Book, 1925]

Soak sweetbreads in salted tepid water one hour, then boil them two minutes, and then put them into cold water. Trim and interlard with bacon. Blend butter and flour until a light brown, thin with beef or chicken soup. When smooth, add a wineglass of wine, put the sweetbreads in the sauce and stew. When about done, add mushrooms that have been stewed in wine, and when all has simmered together two or three minutes, arrange the sweetbreads in a dish, pour the gravy over them and garnish with the mushrooms.

## ARMILLARIA MELLEA

The Spore Print  
[Los Angeles Mycological Society, October, 1985]

Mycologists have recently discovered that what mushroomers have long called the Honey Mushroom, *Armillaria mellea*, is actually ten different biological species in North America and five different species in Europe! (Biological species cannot interbreed.) In interbreeding experiments, three fertile pairings were found between American and European species, while one European species would not interbreed with any American species. At this point, there were a possible 12 species total between the two continents.

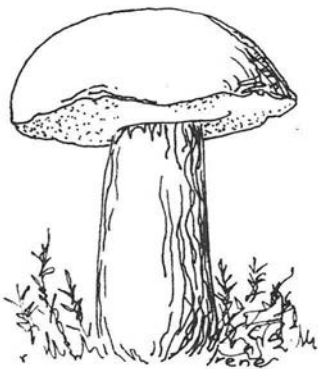
But then came the fly in the ointment. The remaining European species interbred with two different American species (though, by definition, they would not interbreed with one another). So how many species of Honey Mushroom are there??

## MUSHROOM TOUR OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

A mushroom study tour of Thailand, Malaysian Borneo, Singapore, and Burma is being organized by Gary Lincoff, President of the North American Mycological Association, Andrew Weil, M.D., of the University of Arizona, and Emanuel Salzman, M.D., Telluride Mushroom Conference. The tour begins on September 29, 1986, and lasts 19 days. (The 8 day segment of the tour to Burma is an optional extension.) For information, write or phone Dr. Emanuel Salzman, c/o Fungophile, P.O. Box 5503, Denver, CO 80217 (Telephone 303 296-9359)

## Welcome to the following new members:

Judy Gustafson	522-3862
Noel Howes	784-5008
Stephen Lori & Linda Leeward	783-2877
Thomas McInerney	632-3670
Ruby Miller	382-1985
Mary Patterson	367-6212
Michael Sheridan and Candy Meyer	441-6791



P. S. M. S.  
*Spore Prints*

is published monthly, except July and August, by the  
**PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Monroe Center, 1810 N.W. 65th St., Seattle, WA 98117  
Direct all mail to this address

**OFFICERS:** Margaret Dilly, President, 1986 (1)  
Gilbert Austin, Vice President, 1987 (1)  
Ferris Anderson, Treasurer, 1986 (2)  
Betty Hamilton, Secretary, 1987 (2)

**TRUSTEES:** Term expires March 1986: Ed Bush (1),  
Sally Ann Hansen (1), Betty Okura (1),  
Pacita Roberts (1), Ron Skoor (1).  
Term expires March 1987: Ernie Boa (2),  
Judi Boa (2), Dennis Bowman (1), Andy  
Green (1), Charlotte Turner-Zila (2).

**ALTERNATES:** Morley McCall, Brian Read

**SCI. ADVISOR:** Dr. Joseph F. Ammirati

**LIBRARY:** Room 104 of the Monroe Center.  
Hours: Wednesdays 6 - 9 p.m.  
Thursdays 10 - 2 p.m.

**EDITOR:** Agnes Sieger, 15555 14th N.E., Seattle,  
WA 98155

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Margaret Dilly

As I sit down to compose a message this month, I do so with some ponderment. These last two years have zipped by very rapidly, and now it's time to hand the presidency over to someone else. It has been a real learning experience for me and mostly pleasurable. Serving with an idea oriented Board has been challenging and rewarding.

The workings of the Society require a great deal of time and dedication from Board members, committee heads, and news editors. I am grateful that those I served with were enthusiastic and willing workers. They all deserve a great deal of praise. However, I would like to single out one person who seldom receives recognition, but holds probably the most important position in our club. That is our treasurer, Ferris Anderson. He is quiet and unassuming but always available. Keeping the checks and balances of our complex organization with its many committees is no easy task, but he operates with the efficiency of a bank manager (which he is). Aside from his four years service in this capacity, he also is very visible on meeting nights, helping with the mechanics of setting up and taking down. A frequent field trip participant, always willing to assist where needed, he is a great asset to the Society, and I take my hat off to him.

In closing, I would like to thank not only the Board but the membership for your support and cooperation in making this organization one we can all be proud of. Thank you all for the time, effort, and friendship that have made it fun.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Coleman Leuthy

Spring is nigh. Even the groundhogs say so. This is only the eighth time in ninety-nine years that groundhogs have predicted an early spring. They say they've never been wrong.

May I encourage members of the fall beginners' classes to join the learning field trip on March 29th and to attend our scheduled field trips this spring. The field is where you really learn mushrooms.

Members of the intermediate classes, take your keys and help identify on field trips as well as helping on the spring learning field trip for new members. Bring your collections to the membership meetings and help arrange our monthly mini-displays. Should a group of you also wish to gather a few evenings this spring in the library and key out new finds, we need an organizer and then we should be able to find Key Council members to help with keying.

To one and all, enjoy our northwestern spring.

## BOOK SALES

Judi Boa

The recently published A Field Guide to Southern Mushrooms may be ordered from us. Member's price is \$15.00. This is the third book in Nancy Smith Weber and Alexander H Smith's "tall" series. It includes enough of our local mushrooms to make it a worthwhile addition to your library. We also sell the two earlier books, The Mushroom Hunters' Field Guide and A Field Guide to Western Mushrooms.

## Calendar

- 2/25/86 CEPS Meeting, Tacoma, 7:30 p.m. Call Lori Knox (325-9758) or Margaret Dilly (782-8511) for directions.
- 3/14/86 Survivors' Banquet, Quinn's at Shilshole (no membership meeting is held in March)
- 3/17/86 PSMS board meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
- 3/26/86 Deadline for Spore Prints material
- 3/29/86 Saturday, learning field trip to MacDonald Park near Carnation
- 4/5-6/86 Field trip to Steelhead County Park in Rockport

The Boston Mycological Club reports that a gourmet specialty shop in Belmont Centre is selling dried chanterelles and morels at \$160 per pound and boletes, which are separated into "procini" and "cepes," at \$160 and \$180 per pound.

**LEARNING FIELD TRIP, MARCH 29th Monte Hendrickson**

When you read this issue, the weather may not yet be "right" for hunting mushrooms. But we try to schedule this learning (one-day) field trip at the earliest date possible, so that you may enjoy a long spring mushroom season.

Rain or shine, mushrooms or no mushrooms, this first field trip will be held. There is no potluck dinner for this event, but bring your lunch.

Come to MacDonald Park on the Tolt River in Carnation on Saturday morning, March 29. This park is located a half mile south of Carnation in King County. Enter the park via N.E. 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 9:30 a.m. There will be a lecture by Monte Hendrickson on how to recognize cottonwood trees, under which the early morels (*Verpa bohemica*) grow. After the lecture, Monte will lead the hunt. Be sure to bring rain gear, a basket, and wear sturdy footwear. PSMS provides coffee and cookies.

**ROCKPORT FIELD TRIP April 5 & 6, 1986**

This is a regular spring field trip. You may camp in this beautiful campground located on the Skagit River. There are full hookups, if desired, for the customary fee. On Saturday, there will be a potluck dinner in the shelter. Every party brings one dish (hot dish, salad, or dessert) to feed the number of persons in their party. PSMS furnishes coffee. A host will be at the shelter all day to welcome our members, give them encouragement, send them out to collecting sites, keep them warm with coffee, and sustain them with cookies. New members should try to arrive by 9:00 a.m. so they can be taken along by an experienced member. An expert identifier will identify your finds.

There are two possible routes, both lined with cottonwoods, so you can look for *Verpa bohemica* on the way. Either take the Arlington exit #208 from I-5 and drive through Darrington, or take the Burlington exit #230 to Rockport. Steelhead Park is on the river bank. Bring your binoculars, because if we are lucky we may see some bald eagles.

**WHAT EATS THE NETTLES? Dick Sieger**

Monte Hendrickson won't promise that you will find *Verpa bohemica* on the Carnation field trip, but I will promise that anyone can find *Leptosphaeria acuta*. *L. acuta* is a tiny fungus that snacks on old stinging nettles. Just above the shelter at MacDonald County Park is a rich damp field in which grows *Urtica dioica*, stinging nettle. Young nettles, a few inches high, will be growing at the base of last year's canes. If you look at the canes carefully, you will see some black pimples shaped like chocolate kisses. These are the pseudothecia of *L. acuta*. The pseudothecia are hard black fruiting bodies that contain numerous asci, the spore bearing structures of the class of fungi called Ascomycetes. The asci are microscopic tubes with double walls, inside which are eight spores. When the fungus is mature, one ascus at a time pokes out of a hole (ostiole) in the tip of the pseudothecium. Once the ascus is in place, pressure from fluid inside causes the tip of the ascus to break, and spores explode out like bullets from a gun. It takes five seconds for the eight spores to discharge. As each spore leaves, the ascus shrinks a little, and when all the spores are gone, it slumps down out of the ostiole and another ascus takes its place.

I can't give you a recipe for *Leptosphaeria acuta* but you can cook what it eats. Wearing gloves, gather young leaves from the tips of the nettles. You don't want any of the stems. Nettle stems are so tough they have been used in rope making. Take only a few leaves from each plant so it can flourish. Put the chopped leaves on a rack above boiling water. If you were lucky enough to find *Verpa bohemica*, chop them up and put them in the water. Cover and steam the nettles for five minutes. Be sure they're limp and bright green. Strain the water from the mushrooms, and add them to the nettles along with butter, salt and pepper. Stung by a nettle? Bite one back!

**ELECTION! ELECTION! ELECTION!**

This month's *Spore Prints* is coming to you one week early in order to present the candidates up for election to PSMS offices in 1986. This year, we are voting for a president, a treasurer, and five trustees. Please read the following profiles carefully and mark your choices on the enclosed ballots. Don't forget to return your ballot in the self-addressed envelope.

**CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED OFFICERS FOR PSMS 1986**

Election Information: Each family membership is entitled to two votes; each individual membership is entitled to one vote (PSMS Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3).

**For President**



**Gilbert F. Austin**

I joined PSMS in 1981 and currently began the (for me) slow but endlessly enjoyable examination of the fungi of our state. I feel this is a terrific avocation and that PSMS makes it all possible. I will continue to try to make a contribution to our Society as long as my fascination continues for the hills, the outdoors, and the mushrooms and other flora of the Northwest.

**For President**



**Coleman Leuthy**

Educational chairman of PSMS, member of NAMA and the Pacific Northwest Key Council. B.S. from the U.W. in Botany under Dr. Stunz, with graduate studies in Mycology at the U.W. and the University of Michigan under A.H. Smith. Public school teacher of biology and chemistry for 28 years. Retired in '85. Taught mushroom and wildflower classes since the early '60's. I will emphasize education and leadership.

**For Treasurer**



**Edith M. Godar**

A member of PSMS since '81. I have worked at all exhibits since joining. Other activities include banquet chairman in '84, banquet ticket sales in '85, alternate trustee and trustee in '83-84. My work experience includes employment as an industrial chemist and college teacher. My principal hobby is mushroom hunting, but I also enjoy camping, gardening, woodworking, clock repairing and Oriental cooking.

I am currently a Trustee and PSMS Librarian. I want to continue to contribute to the Society by serving as a Trustee. A high school science teacher, I have over 20 years experience in the field of education. Hobbies include photography, collecting antique cameras, growing roses and making jewelry.

**For Trustee**



**Ed Bush**

Among my most satisfying pleasures is partaking of the enchanting recreational opportunities of the Northwest - and that includes the pursuit of mycology and helping to preserve our natural heritage for present enjoyment and to maintain it for oncoming generations. The friendship and company of the members of PSMS is meaningful and rewarding.

**For Trustee**



**Marian Harris**

I have had an avid interest in mushrooms since childhood and now that I've become a member of PSMS I have learned to recognize many new species and lost my fear of these "foreign" fungi. I feel I owe the Society my support and would like to do my part to keep it going strong.

**For Trustee**



**Ingeborg McGuire**

As a member since 1984 I've found the Society to be a fine source of mycological information, sylvan exploration and discovery and new friends. I especially enjoyed participating in the annual exhibit. If I feel as a trustee I could guide my energies and ideas in a direction to forward and develop the club's goals in our community.

**For Trustee**



**Daniel Schwenk**

**For Trustee**



**Denis R. Benjamin**

A PSMS exhibit ten years ago stimulated my interest (some say obsession) with mushrooms. As a pathologist and currently Director of Laboratories at Childrens Orthopedic Hospital, I have had a long-standing interest in mycology. I'm dedicated to enhancing the educational, scientific, gastro-nomic, and social activities of mushrooming to the benefit and enjoyment of all our members.

In 1981, I attended a four day mushroom conference in Telluride, Colorado. I was hooked. Since then, my wife, Nancy, and I have attended one or more conferences each year. Former members of the Colorado Mycological Society, we moved to Seattle a year ago. I'm interested in identifying, growing, and eating mushrooms. I want to serve PSMS in any way I can. I earn my living as a salesman for Beecham Laboratories.

**For Trustee**



**Bill Guinn**

**For Trustee**



**Ludmilla H. Kleinman**

I have been a long time subsistence mushroomer as a young girl in Austria. Although this is only my second year as a member of PSMS, I believe that I have fully integrated into all the major activities. If elected to the Board of Trustees I will endeavor to be enthusiastic and creative in helping direct the future of our Society.

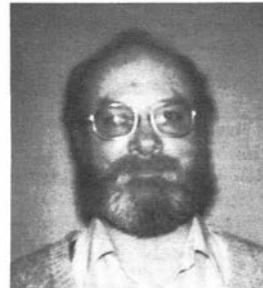
My role on the Board would be to carry out the policies established by the Board, including enlightening the public on the role of fungi in our ecology, educating members in mycology, and working with regulatory and legislative bodies to protect this valuable resource from harm involving unrestrained commercial picking. Public lands should not be exploited indiscriminately for private gain.

**For Trustee**



**Frank Ochinto**

**For Trustee**



**Gary Smith**

The exhibit of 1981 brought me to PSMS. A public school science teacher for 25 years, I have taught biology and ecology with some delvings into drama, speech, and language. Fly tying, fishing, bird watching, organic gardening, cross country skiing and people are other interests. The last two years, I have worked on Receiving and other projects at the exhibit. I look on this position as a chance to serve and learn.