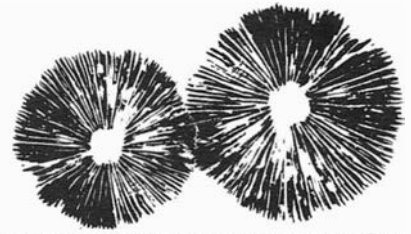


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 239

February 1988



AMANITA PHALLOIDES VICTIM GETS TRANSPLANT

Robert W. Steward, *Los Angeles Times*,
with updates from Larry Stickney

An Oakland, California, woman who shared a gourmet meal of wild mushrooms picked by a companion was in critical condition at the UCLA Medical Center following a liver transplant that appears to have saved her life. The case is the second in the nation in which surgeons have replaced a liver to treat a life-threatening case of mushroom poisoning, one expert said.

The man who ate the mushrooms with the young woman was in serious condition as UCLA doctors monitored him to see if he, too, would need the complex transplant surgery. Both persons ate one mushroom each.

Cynthia Zheng, 19, who received a new liver January 6, and Wilhelm Winter, 45, also of Oakland, mistakenly picked the lethal *Amanita phalloides* January 1 near Inverness in Marin County, a health official said. The two were guided by the Eastern European man, who believed the large skirt and large cap (never mind the lack of brown gills, which must have been obvious) pointed to *Agaricus augustus*. The victims did have a field guide, but according to Larry Stickney of the San Francisco Mycological Society were not members of a mushroom club.

Zheng appeared at the emergency room of Highland Hospital in Oakland the next morning, complaining of abdominal cramps, nausea, and diarrhea. After the mushroom sample she brought with her was identified as *A. phalloides*, her companion, who had not yet become ill, was called to the hospital and later began showing symptoms of poisoning. Zheng and Winter were flown to UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles for treatment.

Although they came in for treatment less than 24 hours later after ingesting the mushrooms, doctors at UCLA felt a liver transplant was better than treatment with Bastien citric acid materials or thioctic acid. Dr. Robert Benjamin of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency said the fatality rate among those who eat *Amanita phalloides* is between 30% and 50%.

According to Stickney, some unusual *A. phalloides* specimens have been showing up this year that are bright Kelly green.



The 1988 membership list will be published soon. Please check your listing in the old roster and report errors to Margaret Holzbauer, 762-3053.

PENICILLIN AND HISTORY

*Wisconsin Mycological
Society Newsletter*

Ever since its discovery, penicillin has been acknowledged as a miracle drug. First available in the 1940's, this antibiotic has changed the history of medical treatment of bacterial infections. Penicillin is produced by a rather ordinary looking, green colored mold -- members of the genus commonly appear on oranges, bread, cheeses, and other foods, but its discovery involved an interesting series of coincidences.

In the 1870's a Scotsman saved the life of a British nobleman's son, who had become dangerously mired in a bog. As a reward, the nobleman offered the Scotsman money, but he refused. The Scotsman also had a son, and instead he requested that the nobleman educate his son. The nobleman agreed.

Later the Scotsman's son, Alexander Fleming, attended St. Mary's Hospital School of Medicine and went on to become famous as the discoverer of the antibiotic penicillin. Meanwhile the nobleman's son was rising to prominence in British politics. During World War II he became seriously ill with pneumonia but was treated with penicillin and survived. His name? Winston Churchill.

MUSHROOM SAUTE WITH PUFF PASTRY Kevin McKenzie [Prepared by Rover's at the 1986 PSMS exhibit]

1 lb mushrooms	basil
3 chopped shallots	chives
2 tsp garlic, chopped	1/4 cup roasted pine nuts
2-3 oz brandy	1/4 lb puffed pastry,
1 cup stock	cut to resemble mushrooms
1/2 lb butter	1-2 Tbs mild olive oil
tarragon	

1. Heat pan, add olive oil, heat until smoking (barely).
2. Saute garlic, shallots. Remove from pan.
3. Saute mushrooms over high heat, tossing.
4. Flame with brandy, add stock, reduce.
5. Add butter, shallot-garlic, herbs, nuts.
6. Serve immediately garnished with puffed pastry.

Welcome to the following new members:

Eric Madsen, 909 Belmont Avenue East, #2, Seattle, WA 98102
Tel: 322-8305

Ramona S. Owen, 1527 NW 60th, Seattle, WA 98107
Tel: 782-8062

Allan M. Rupprecht, 2304 Juniper Road NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N 3V3 Canada
Tel: (403) 282-8974

Fred Weinmann, 25121 SE 14th, Issaquah, WA 98027
Tel: 392-9230

Spore Prints

is published monthly, September through June, by the
PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Center for Urban Horticulture, Mail Stop GF-15
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(206) 522-6031

OFFICERS: Coleman Leuthy, President
Richard Sieger, Vice President
Edith M. Godar, Treasurer
Lois Skoor, Secretary

TRUSTEES: Denis R. Benjamin, Patrice Benson,
Dennis Bowman, Ralph Burbridge,
Ed Bush, Camille Diaz,
Ludmilla H. Kleinman, Ingeborg McGuir
Daniel Schwenk, Gary Smith

ALTERNATES: Walter Knox, James Herndon

**IMMED. PAST
PRESIDENT** Margaret Dilly

SCI. ADVISOR: Dr. Joseph F. Ammirati

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

Calendar

Feb 9 Membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Feb 15 Board meeting, 7:00 p.m., CUH
Feb 19 *Spore Prints* deadline
Feb 29 *Spore Prints* mailing, 10:00 a.m., CUH
Mar 11 Survivors' Banquet

BOARD MEETING

Dick Sieger

Writing a 1988 budget was our primary activity at the January board meeting. Also, the board decided to submit to the membership an amendment to the bylaws which would enable PSMS to obtain a nonprofit mailing permit. In addition, Coleman read a letter from the University of Washington that confirmed our understanding with the Center for Urban Horticulture.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADDITION TO PSMS BYLAWS

The February 9, 1988, general membership meeting has been designated for the purpose of voting on the following proposed addition (in bold type) to the PSMS Bylaws:

ARTICLE IV, Membership; Section 2 - Election to Membership: Individual, family, and student memberships are open to all interested persons who pay the annual dues established as provided herein. (See Section 4 below.) No person shall be denied membership because of race, religion, color, age, sex, sexual preference, handicap, or for any other reason.

The proposed addition was adopted by the Board of Trustees January 18, 1988, and the wordage approved by a PSMS lawyer. The purpose of the change is to comply with IRS and U.S. Post Office guide lines for nonprofit organizations.

Membership Meeting

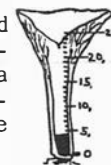
Tuesday, February 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle.

February's program features **Range and Diversity of Fungi** by **Coleman Leuthy**. An overview of the third kingdom, it describes Basidiomycetes (jelly fungi, puffballs, polypores, spine fungi, corals, boletes, chanterelles) and Ascomycetes (morels, cup fungi) and explains the differences between them. The North American Mycological Association has an excellent library of slide programs which any of its members may borrow. This is one of them, prepared by our president who is an experienced teacher.

BUILDING FUND

Ralph Burbridge

At the January membership meeting I reported that about \$5,000 has been either contributed or pledged. Although we are quite a long way from our goal of \$25,000, I'm confident that by June of 1989 we will have achieved that goal.



In the years ahead, this will drastically cut our rent expense and may even make it possible for PSMS to have funds available for other programs.

I have been concerned about our lack of continuity in any one location. I have felt, for some time, that prospective members might see this as a lack of stability.

I still like the idea of dropping a couple of dollars in a coffee can each month to be set aside specifically for our building fund. It's very unlikely that we will ever have an opportunity like this again. If you feel that you are not sure of exactly what we are trying to do, please call me at 878-4484. I'll be glad to go over the plan with you.

Since last month's report, seventeen donations of at least \$50 have come from

Carl & Betty Hermanson	Margaret Holzbauer
Berenice Mahoney	Larry & Kay Mayhew
James & Karen Humphrey	Pat & Sue Murosako
Ernest & Elaine Henley	Frank Halkes
Douglass & Katherine Raff	Kris Fulsaaes
Ernie & Judi Boa	Howard Williams
Ed & Patrice Benson	Lynn Phillips
Kit Scates- & Harley Barnhart	Anonymous (2)

DIED: Former PSMS "First Lady" **Navarre Orth**, 72, January 4, 1988, at Camano Island. Our condolences to her husband, Jack, who was president of PSMS from 1976 to 1977.

DIED: Long-time PSMS member **Fred Wasson**, 80, January 6, 1988. He and his wife, Helen, served on the PSMS Board for many years. He was PSMS Treasurer, book chairman with his wife, Helen, and on the PSMS Morel Committee for 10 years. Recent activities had been limited because of ill health.

DIED: Noted mycologist **Howard Bigelow**, *Clitocybe* authority and friend to amateurs, November 21, 1987, of a heart attack.

ELECTION!

ELECTION!

ELECTION!

The following candidates are up for election to PSMS offices in 1988. 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.

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

PRESIDENT



Gilbert Austin

PSMS member since 1981. Have served as vice-president, field trip chairman, and trustee. I enjoy the organization and will do what I can to keep it an attractive, active, and viable recreational and teaching body. My mushroom search began with membership in PSMS, and it is now my principal outdoor hobby.

I have enjoyed many aspects of PSMS activities and acquired some knowledge of mycology during my years as a member. The dues are but a small part of the Society's needs. Serving in committees and on the board is small payment for the benefits and pleasures received.

TREASURER



Edith Godar

TRUSTEE



Mark Jarand

Age 31. B.S. in chemistry, Univ. of Calif., San Diego. Employed: Key Tech Corp. A relatively recent enthusiast, I have had some interest in mushrooms since picking meadow mushrooms with my father as a child in San Diego. My interests lean toward home cultivation, fueled by my notorious lack of luck in collecting on field trips.

I am completing my first term as a PSMS board member and would like to continue to contribute in that capacity. If re-elected, I shall do my best to further the interests of PSMS.

TRUSTEE



Ingeborg McGuire

I have been a member of PSMS for about 5 years. I've been hunting mushrooms since high school. Most of you know me from the preservation booth. I have a strong ecological philosophy. PSMS has given to me friends, knowledge, and activities. Now it is my turn to reciprocate, and I hope to serve all the members in this position.

TRUSTEE



Michele Willis

TRUSTEE



Kern Hendricks

Basically a pot hunter, I've been a member of the mycological societies of New York, San Francisco, and now the Puget Sound. We need to bring in new members who will become active in PSMS, and I believe revitalizing our field trips will help do this.

For many years I have enjoyed and profited from the activities of PSMS. Now it is time for me to help with the work. My interests include pot hunting, conservation, and photography (other people's).

TRUSTEE



Amelia Schultz

TRUSTEE

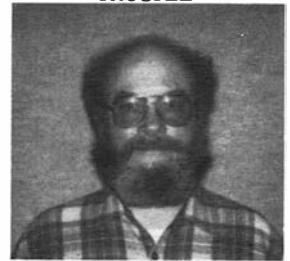


Kris Fulsaa

A native Washingtonian, my interest in mushrooms began during my college days when I learned to hunt for the pot. I joined PSMS about five years ago, and have participated in classes and annual exhibits. I have experience in small-group decision-making, and skills in publicity and media.

It would be an honor to serve a second term as trustee. Very much, I enjoyed working on the Exhibit and helping to plan our society's agenda. Primarily, I am interested in the education of our members and the public, that we may understand mushrooms and their important role in the ecology of our environment. I will appreciate your vote.

TRUSTEE



Gary Smith

There is much to be said, but space is limited so I'll be brief. There have been some IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES since our January meeting.

SB5137 was not rescheduled, but SB6240 was. It, too, directs the Department of Natural Resources to develop a program for wild mushroom harvesting. It specifies recreational gathering takes precedence over commercial, but it opens the door for licensing and limiting for both. We therefore are reluctant to urge passage of this bill in its present state.

HB1159 has been improved and becomes "Substitute HB1159." It requires purchase of a license and data collecting for both buyer and processor. Administered by the Department of Agriculture, with penalties for noncompliance, this bill also appropriates funds for badly needed research studies. Information gathering that this bill will provide should enable us to determine further action.

We are hopeful, but not sure, that HB275, which amends the "Specialized Forest Products Act" to include wild mushrooms and protects landowners, will make it before committee this SHORT 60 DAY SESSION. It's worth urging your representatives to vote for it. Each time they are reminded of a mushroom issue, it makes us more visible. Contact your representatives personally TODAY (you have only three) by letter, phone, or hot-line. (1-800-562-6000). You can also use this number to request a copy of any bill, its status, and committee hearing schedules. For further questions, contact me (782-8511) or Lori Knox (789-8156).

Thank you for helping with the *Spore Prints* mailing: Coleman Leuthy, Mae Green, Amelia Schultz, Bob Judd, and Charlotte Turner-Zila. Our next mailing will be on Monday, February 29th, at 10:00 a.m. at CUH. Everyone is welcome to help.

-- Millie Kleinman

DR. JOSEPH AMMIRATI WINS COMMUNICATION AWARD

Professor Joseph F. Ammirati, PSMS scientific advisor, has received a certificate of achievement from the Society for Technical Communication for *The New Savory Wild Mushroom*, which was a winner in their Technical Communication Competition. The award honors publications that present technical subjects to non-technical readers and is a prestigious recognition of important work.

Those who have attended Dr. Ammirati's classes know that he has the ability to make difficult subjects understandable. It is gratifying to have his talents recognized by others. Congratulations!

PSMS sells *The New Savory Wild Mushroom* to its members for \$11.25. (Royalties are being donated to the Daniel E. Stuntz Foundation.)

BANQUET

Coleman Leuthy

The highlight of the Survivors' Banquet on March 11th will be a slide presentation on the Enchantments area in the Icicle drainage southeast of Leavenworth by Peg and Bill Stark, whose lives have been closely integrated into this Alpine wilderness for 30 years. Tickets may be purchased at the membership meeting or by mail from Ingeborg McGuire, 4258 7th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105.



Space may be limited because tickets will soon be on sale to nonmembers, so get yours now!

Thank you to the following people, who helped at the Christmas cookie party: Martha Benny, Corinne Cato, Edith Godar, Marie Guillas, Beth Schnarre, and Joleen and Bill Williams.

-- Alice Austin



Puget Sound Mycological Society
Center for Urban Horticulture
GF-15, University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195



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1987 memberships have ended!
Did you paid your 1988 dues?