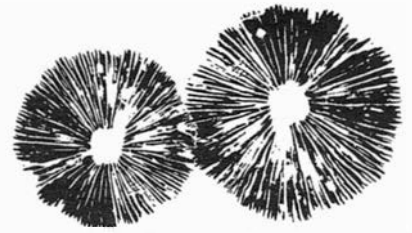


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

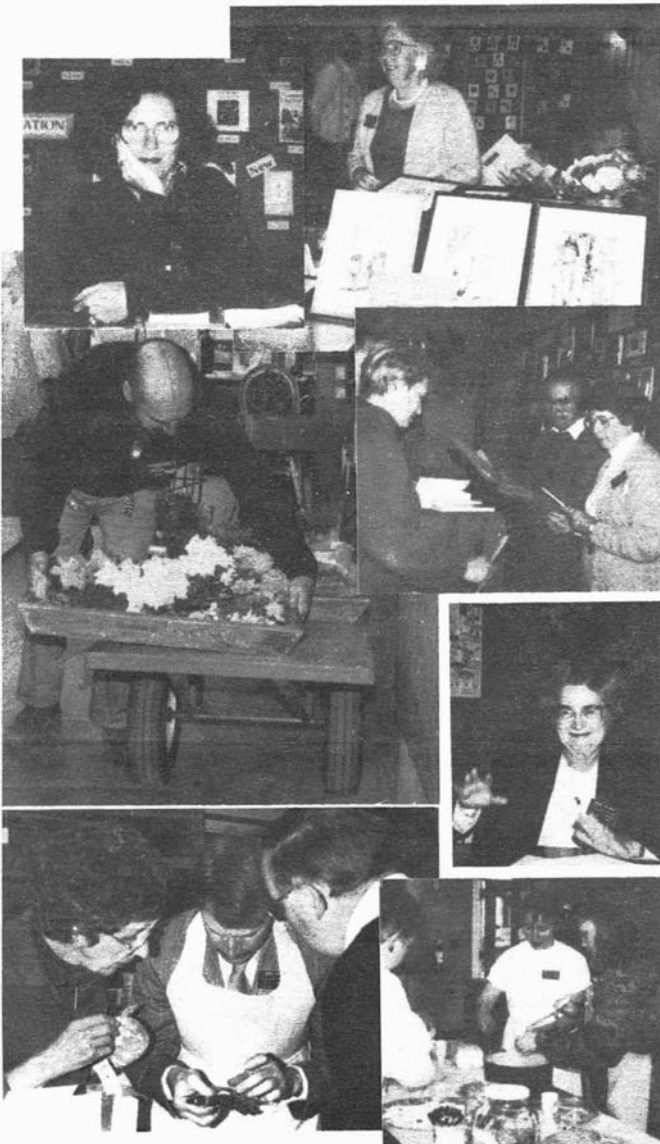
Number 276

November 1991



1991 ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Despite one of the worst mushroom seasons in decades, several decades, the tables at the 28th Annual PSMS Wild Mushroom Exhibit were filled with mushrooms — never mind it was every last one we could lay our hands on. The crowd was down, another casualty of the dry weather, but enthusiasm was high, the exhibits were top notch, and everyone agreed that "The Greatest Mushroom Show" lived up to its promise. We don't have any statistics yet, but we do have some pictures.



Thank you, Lynn and Bill, for a job well done. In a year when there was more sunshine than mushrooms, it took a special type of leadership to keep the enthusiasm and motivation as high as they were. The two of you did a fantastic job leading PSMS through one of our most enjoyable exhibits. —Dennis Bowman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kern Hendricks

Congratulations to Lynn Phillips, Bill Bridges, and all those who participated in putting on a great annual exhibit. There is no doubt in my mind that our society has the ability to host the best foray NAMA will have ever seen. We'll do that in the fall of 1993.



As the fall season winds to a close, it is time to think about election of a new president, treasurer, and five trustees. More than anything, we need to get some of our newer members involved — especially as trustees. Future officers generally come from the board. It is not necessary to be a "mushroom expert" to run for office. What is necessary is a strong interest in seeing the society succeed and a few hours per month to make it happen. I hope that those who have actively participated in the society's activities over the past year will think positively about running for office and "putting a little back."

CULTIVATING MUSHROOMS ON PAPER* W. Sundberg

[Illinois Mycological Assoc. Newsletter]

Newspaper, 5 full-size
or 10 half-size sheets
Tap water
Spawn, about 3 cubic in.
Plastic bag, at least 4 x 16"
clean and new

Rubber bands, 3-4
Tray (for soaking paper)
Beaker or bottle
Knife
Marker
Misting bottle

Fold newspaper to 11.5 x 14 in. Place paper in tray, pour water over it, and immerse it. Wait until paper is saturated — 5 minutes or more. Drain off excess water, pressing the paper if necessary.

Chop, shred, or crumble inoculum into many small pieces, being careful not to crush or bruise the mycelium. Sprinkle inoculum over the surface of the paper.

Roll up paper along the long side; when done, the roll should be about 12 in. long. Secure the roll with two rubber bands, then place it in the bag. Close the bag tightly with a rubber band. Using the point of the knife, poke ten 1/4-in. holes in the bag.

Place bag in a dark, confined space. In about 2 weeks, fuzzy white mycelium should appear over most of paper.

At this point, move bag to a lighted (fluorescent or indirect daylight), draft-free place. Remove bag closure and mist the contents. Loosely close bag. Afterward, the inside of the bag can be misted up to twice daily.

The first mushrooms should appear in 2 weeks or less. Adjust bag as necessary while they enlarge. Harvest them before the cap margin recurves (turns upward).

Soak newspaper "log" in cold water, drain, and return it to the bag if addition crops are desired.

*Developed by Rick Kerrigan of Far West Fungi

Spore Prints

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CALENDAR

Nov. 12 Membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Nov. 17 Cultivation Group, 12:00 p.m., CUH
Nov. 18 Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., CUH
Nov. 22 *Spore Prints* deadline
Dec. 10 Membership meeting

NOTES OF INTEREST

Wanted: Companions to seek wild mushrooms in the mountains of the Mexican state of Michoacan during the heavy summer rains, which begin in June and last 3 or 4 months. Goal: Possible source of edible fungi to distribute here and in Europe. I have been hunting wild mushrooms for 25 years, have lived in Mexico, and speak, write, and read Spanish. Write Bob Kerekes, 14985 Reedley Street, Moorpark, CA 93021.

Sick Call: Howard Melson, PSMS President in 1972 and 1973, is in the Bellevue Group Health Hospital, where he is recovering from an operation to correct an abdominal aneurysm, complicated by a weak heart. Glad to hear the old ticker is still ticking, Howard.

Mushroom Missionary: On October 15, Dick Sieger gave a talk on *Lepiota* to the Vancouver, B.C., Mycological Society.

SECOND CALL FOR LIBRARY BOOKS E. Hendricks

If you have checked out any library books in the last two months, or have books which you have borrowed previously, please either return them at the meeting November 12th or call Bill Bridges at 838-6378 or Elizabeth Hendricks at 284-2164.

Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 1991, at 7:30 p.m., Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle

This past summer, PSMS member and mushroom photographer Steve Trudell made two trips east in search of fungi. In July, he spent 2 weeks at the Highlands Biological Station in the southern Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina attending a class taught by University of Tennessee mycologist Dr. Ronald Petersen. Then in August, he made a second trip, this time to attend the Northeast Mycological Foray at Orono, Maine, the NAMA Foray at Paul Smith's College near Lake Placid, New York, and the New Mexico Mycological Society Foray at the Angle Fire ski resort, the site of next year's NAMA Foray. On his trips, Steve took over 1200 photographs. He'll be here to share the best of them with us and relate some of his experiences, such as finding nine species of chanterelles in 2 days and surviving Hurricane Bob.



After Steve's talk, Margaret Dilly, founder and first chair of the PSMS Conservation and Ecology Committee, will describe some of the forest regulations currently being applied to recreational and commercial harvesting and give a short report on the "management of wild edibles" conference that was held October 29 and 30th at Eugene.

Members with last names beginning with the letters I—L are asked to bring a small plate of refreshments for the social hour following the meeting.

December Program: It's time to begin preparing for our annual cookie bash and slide show, put on by you, the members. Now is the time to start sorting those slides and putting together a small presentation for the rest of us to enjoy. We are asking for 3-minute presentations of five to ten slides each. The topic is yours to choose.

CULTIVATION GROUP

Louis Poncz



The Cultivation Group met on October 6th at the home of Emilio Fonzo. Most of our time was spent on preparations for our exhibit at the 28th annual Wild Mushroom Show. We discussed how to maximize access to all the items exhibited and how to present the items effectively. We concluded the meeting by enjoying an excellent potluck and listening to Emilio discuss house repairs.

The exhibit at the PSMS show covered the wide range of the group's activities. Technicolor posters, beautifully prepared by Pat Murosako, displayed photographs of the Mineos' garden bed of *Stropharia rugosoannulata*, of a work party held at the Myers' farm where various substrates were prepared and inoculated with different culture strains, and of bags of fruiting *Pleurotus ostreatus*. Also displayed was hardware needed to cultivate mushrooms at home — from the big items like a HEPA filter, incubator, and a bale of straw to small items like grain, jars, chips, and Petri dishes. Mushrooms also graced our tables, including samples of cultivatable mushrooms that several of our members are currently



growing (for example, shiitake on logs and *Pleurotus ostreatus* on straw and newspaper logs) and examples of other cultivatables (including enoke, *Agaricus augustus*, and *Coprinus comatus*).

The next meeting of the Cultivation Group will be held at noon on Sunday, November 17th, in the Douglas Classroom at the Center of Urban Horticulture. We hope to meet new members who are interested in cultivating mushrooms at home year round and to solidify our plans for the coming year. If you can make this meeting, please bring some snacks to share.

FORAGING CONFERENCE

Patrice Benson

Twelve PSMS members donated their time and talents to the Pacific Northwest Conference on Food and Wine, which was held October 24 at Edmonds Community College. Sea life, botanicals, and fungi were featured at this day-long event, oriented toward foraging in the Northwest. Slide shows, displays, and experts of all kinds were part of a program designed to educate those interested in all aspects of foraging. Thank you, Carol, Dick, Denny, Denis, Lynn, Sondra, Carol B., Walter, Michael, Kathy, and Mary for representing PSMS and putting fungi in such a favorable light.

BOARD NEWS

Agnes Sieger

Cataloging of the PSMS library is proceeding well. Ron Post will tape the wild foods conference in Eugene. Dennis Bowman, Harold Schnarre, and Sal Mineo will see what money we are saving by being at CUH and look into planning for the future. PSMS has officially bid to host the 1993 NAMA foray. Dennis Bowman will be the foray chair.

MEET THE BOAS

Inga Wilcox



Ernie and Judy Boa have been members since 1981. Judy tells me that on a camping trip prior to that year, they visited Lake Wenatchee and saw lots of mushrooms which they couldn't identify. Their curiosity aroused, they came to the PSMS Annual Exhibit at the Pacific Science Center and joined up. They learned that the mystery mushrooms they had seen were shaggy manes. Since then, they have learned to identify quite a few species, especially when Judy chaired the Book Sales Committee. She states that during those 4 or 5 years she really learned a lot by reading the books for sale and by selecting titles to be sold. Dr. Stuntz was still alive then and shared his knowledge freely.

They find PSMS very friendly, outgoing, and knowledgeable. PSMS allows members to really study the subject, and lectures are presented in such a way that, although they are technical, everybody can understand them.

Since their retirement, both Ernie and Judy spend a lot of time playing golf. Judy also collects mountain driftwood, which she polishes and mounts on bases. Living near the golf course, they find mushrooms near the fairway and near their house. Their backyard yields blewits, oyster mushrooms, and The Prince, to name a few. Would you believe that they haven't found shaggy manes at Lake Wenatchee since?

FALL FIELD TRIPS

Mary Lynch



My thanks to all the field-trip hosts and hostesses, foray leaders, and identifiers — a great job this fall! Your time and effort were much appreciated by one and all. There are no hosted field trips planned for November. Part of the social time at the November meeting will be spent networking to find out who is still interested in going out to hunt mushrooms. Dates, locations, and car pools will be discussed.

We are looking for a group campsite for the field trip next Memorial Day. If you have a recommendation or would like to volunteer, call Mary Lynch at 391-5379.

DALLE'S FIELD TRIP REPORT

Brian Luther

A few people found chanterelles, but they were basically in pretty short supply. Jack Orth, former PSMS president, found two nice matsutakes. A dinner-plate-sized *Agaricus augustus*, or Prince, was brought in which was very lovely. Several small collections were found of *Hericium* and *Rozites caperata*, the Gypsy mushroom, but nothing was found in abundance except russulas. Unusual specimens included *Amanita pachycolea*, *Albatrellus dispansus*, *Pycnoporellus alboluteus*, and *Boletus Pulcherrimus* (Alice Eastwood's *Boletus*) in button stage. All told, 79 species were identified by myself, Sara Clark, and Larry Baxter. Gene Croston, and Jerry and Alice Mugerian were our willing hosts.

JOINT MOUNTAINEERS/PSMS FIELD TRIP

Russ Kurtz

October 12th found a group of Mountaineer naturalists and PSMS members meeting at Crystal Springs campground for a joint foray. Warm, dry weather made fungi scare and dehydrated. Three groups — led by Larry Baxter, Harold Schnarre, and Russ Kurtz — spread throughout the area. At 3:00 p.m. all groups met at the Mountaineers Meany Lodge, where Coleman Leuthy, Larry Baxter, and Sara Clark counted 93 species, many difficult to identify because of dehydration.

It was a mycophagy-oriented program, with mushrooms at every meal. After a standing rib dinner with all the trimmings, Patrice Benson presented a slide show about edible and cultivated mushrooms, followed by a cooking demonstration which was very popular and applauded. It was a great weekend even if the weather and fungi did not cooperate as they should in October. Don't miss out on this event next year!

MYCOPHAGY

Patrice Benson

Thank you again, to all of the members who supported the cooking and tasting part of the exhibit either by helping, cooking, or donating mushrooms. The popularity of this aspect of the exhibit was obvious by the numbers of mushroom soups and sautes which were consumed by visitors and workers during our 2-day exhibit on October 19 and 20th. Although the hunting produced less edibles than usual, we had fresh chanterelles and *Dentinum repandum* as well as preserved mushrooms to work with and no complaints were heard.

NEW BOOKS

Elizabeth Hendricks

We have several new books which were introduced at the show. They will be available at member discount prices at the November meeting.

Wild Food by Roger Phillips — a beautiful book for any forager. It has photo displays of berries, greens, mushrooms, and other wild edibles with tempting recipes for each.

A Practical Guide for the Amateur Naturalist by Gerald Durnell came highly recommended by Beth Schnarre. It's an adventurous exploration of 17 different habitats with suggestions as to what to do in each.

We have two new tree books to help you in your identification efforts. *Trees of Washington* is a slim volume with pen illustrations and descriptions of 32 common trees. *Trees of North America* is another Roger Phillips photograph extravaganza, a great reference.

Considering our drastic loss of forests, *The Redesigned Forest* by Chris Maser should be of interest. It delves into forest practices and draws some alarming conclusions.

How to Identify Mushrooms to Genus VI was brought in for the Intermediate Class. It has helpful descriptions of what makes each genus distinct and has good microscopic and macroscopic keys. An excellent reference for intermediate and advanced students.

Our 1991 sweat shirts carry the theme of "Greatest Wild Mushroom Show." We still have lots of colors in XL, L, and M. Please remember to wash in cold water and hang to dry, to keep the gold bright and shining.

We have some gorgeous new mushroom posters — printed in Italy and England. Special orders will be taken at the November meeting.

Mushroom hunting • Tall people • Are no good at it —Yayu

MUSHROOM TURNOVERS

PSMS Cookbook

2 TBs butter or margarine
1/2 C onion, finely chopped
1 C mushrooms, finely chopped
1 tsp flour
1/2 tsp seasoned salt

dash pepper
1/8 tsp thyme
dash cayenne
1 recipe pie crust

Heat butter in a fry pan. Add onion. Cook 3 minutes. Add mushrooms and cook 3 minutes more. Add flour and seasonings. Blend and cook 1 more minute. Cool completely in the refrigerator.

Make pastry or use pie crust mix. Roll out, cutting into rounds using 2-1/2 in. cookie cutter. Place 1 tsp filling on each round, fold over, press with a fork to seal. Brush with egg yolk mixed with 1 Tbs water.

Bake on ungreased cookie sheet in preheated 400°F oven until golden brown. Makes about 30.

These can be baked ahead and reheated. They may also be frozen and baked as needed. Do not brush with egg yolk, however, when freezing.

POT HUNTER'S LAMENT

Rosanne J. Sharpe

I'm blue as a *Clitocybe nuda*,
I feel like I've eaten Death Cup.
My taste for boletes is unsated,
But I can't give the futile search up.

The pasture is dry and barren,
Campestris are there none.
The chanterelles all picked over,
The morel season long done.

This drought has been driving me crazy!
There are no mushrooms here,
Save *bisporus* from the Safeway.
Let's hope the rains come next year!

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