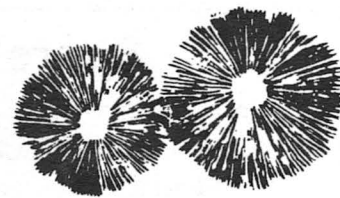


# SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Number 344

September 1998



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Doug Ward

**Volunteers Needed:** Our Society has long been one which was blessed with abundant and skilled volunteer efforts. To those who have contributed so many hours in the past, THANK YOU!!! We find ourselves in a position of needing some new volunteers, in particular, we desperately need members to take up the support for:



**Field Trip Coordinator:** This entails making sure places have been set up for the field trips (most are already taken care of for the Fall), to solicit hosts and to make sure the supplies needed are available.

**Assistant Exhibit Chair:** Last year's chair, Charles Pregaldin, has graciously agreed to do it again this year but can't do it for the third year in a row. We need someone (several would be even better) to help with this year's show and agree to chair next year's effort.

I know there are a lot of talented and capable members out there who would be able to assist the Society with these important tasks. Please contact either me or any Board member to help us.

## BOLETUS PROJECT

Brandon Matheny



It has been several years since the last few PSMS scientific projects culminated with the Barlow Pass diversity study, the morel cultivation project, and mushroom cultivation work in general. To generate some new taxonomic and scientific interest in mushrooms and other fungi, I am coordinating an effort to help PSMS members hone their identification and classification skills and to produce a tes-

tament to their work, a key to members of the genus *Boletus* supplemented by photographs of the various species we manage to collect and culinary tips, warnings, recipes, and so on. The key, photographs, and culinary information can be placed on the PSMS website (<http://www.psms.org>) for easy access by PSMS members and the public and to facilitate updates when new data roll in.

The genus *Boletus* serves as a suitable choice for study because of its relative ease of identification to genus, its limited diversity in the Pacific Northwest which will enable us to complete such a project (when compared to the high diversity in eastern North America), and its obvious wide gustatory appeal. Furthermore, diligent efforts could produce new records of findings in Washington state or extensions of geographic range, undescribed taxa, or additional ecological information on mycorrhizal associates. However, to take on such a project requires some specialization of labor and commitment. Needed are volunteers to help organize the group, collect boletes, take notes of their colors, shapes,

sizes, tastes, habitats and localities, dry and voucher collections, produce a key, note interesting remarks or comments, gather recipes, produce or collect slide photographs of the species collected, or even do sketches or paintings. And then we need volunteers to download the pertinent information on our website. If you believe you can contribute to the project in any way, please contact me at [matheny@u.washington.edu](mailto:matheny@u.washington.edu) or leave me a voice message at 722-8458. I will assemble a list of those interested and schedule an initial meeting on note taking and an overview of the order Boletales either in late September or early October if there is enough interest. The group could informally or formally meet on various fall field trips. To see what the web has to offer on boletes, check out Mykoweb's download of Prof. Harry Thiers' *The Boletes of California* (<http://www.mykoweb.com/boletes/index.html>).

I hope this project whets the interest and appetite of a core of PSMS members who have the interest and time available to learn more about fungi. New members with some collecting experience are welcome!

## MUSHROOM ID CLASSES

Lisa Bellefond

With so many varieties of mushrooms sprouting in our forests and lawns, autumn is a great time to learn how to identify fungi.

**A basic mushroom ID class** will be held to help members identify gilled and nongilled fungi. The classes will be at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH) from 7-9 PM on the following Wednesdays: September 30, October 7, 21, 28, and November 4. Students will also be expected to attend a field class at the PSMS foray on Saturday, October 17. Participants will be introduced to dichotomous keys, learn methods for collecting and cooking edible fungi, and be shown poisonous mushrooms to avoid. Class will be limited to the first 25 registrants.

**Intermediate mushroom ID class:** If you're past the beginner stage, then consider participating in the intermediate mushroom ID class. Participants will start a fungi collection and learn how to use a microscope to identify their specimens. This class will be held on the following Tuesdays: September 29, October 6, 20, 27, and November 3. This class will be limited to the first 15 registrants.

To register send

- (1) a note indicating which class you are interested in
- (2) a check for \$30 made out to PSMS
- (3) a self-addressed stamped envelope

to Lisa Bellefond, 8546 20th Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117.  
For any questions, please call me at (206) 782-1377.

## LIBRARY HELPERS NEEDED

PSMS Librarian Lorraine Dod needs two or three helpers to be in the library ½ hour before PSMS meetings. If interested, call Lorraine at (425) 644-0826.

# Spore Prints

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## PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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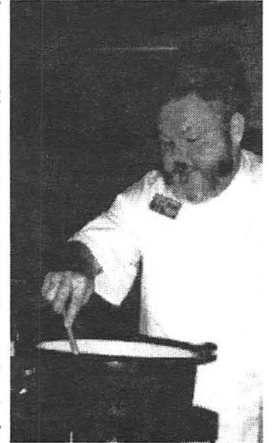
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Annual dues \$20; full-time students \$15

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, September 8, at 7:30 PM at the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle

Bring your taste buds to the September meeting! Northwest chef and PSMS favorite **Michael Blackwell** will be there "sharing some wisdom and fun about cooking with mushrooms." Michael has taught mushroom cooking techniques throughout the Puget Sound region. He is a member of the faculty in the Culinary Arts Program at North Seattle Community College. His lecture and cooking demonstration will include ample time for questions and answers.



The tentative menu will include a tasty shiitake stir-fry and a delicious *Agaricus* and *Boletus* soup. This past year Michael prepared this soup at high schools throughout the north end and, in his words, "converted a lot of mycophobes to mycophiles."

Members with last names beginning with L-Q are requested to bring refreshments for the social hour.

## CALENDAR

- Sept. 8 Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH
- Sept. 12 Crystal Springs Field Trip
- Sept. 14 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH Board Room
- Sept. 19-20 The Dalles Field Trip
- Sept. 25 *Spore Prints* deadline
- Sept. 25-27 American River Field Trip
- Sept. 29 Intermediate ID class, 7-9 PM, CUH, pre-registration required
- Sept. 30 Basic ID class, 7-9 PM, CUH, preregistration required
- Oct. 3 Lake Wenatchee Field Trip
- Oct. 6 Intermediate ID class, 7-9 PM, CUH, pre-registration required
- Oct. 7 Basic ID class, 7-9 PM, CUH, preregistration required
- Oct. 10 Twanoh State Park Field Trip

TUES 1200

## MAY BOARD NEWS

New Education Chair Lisa Bellefond is planning the fall education schedule. As of the board meeting on May 19, PSMS had 570 active memberships plus complimentaries. A motion was carried for Doug Ward to purchase and install a computer under \$1000. Russ Kurtz will replace Marshall Palmer as a member of the By-Law Committee. A motion was carried to award complimentary memberships to this season's speakers. It was decided to reserve field trip locations for Saturday nights only until we can resolve the problem of who should collect donations to help defray the costs for fee camp sites. There was no board meeting in June.

## FIFTH ANNUAL STUNTZ LECTURE

Ben Woo

**Dr. Dennis Desjardin**, mycologist and Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University and Curator of the Harry D. Thiers Herbarium, will be the featured speaker for the Fifth Annual D. E. Stuntz Memorial Lecture. His subject will be "Fungal Diversity in the Tropics."

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Friday, October 16, 1998, 7:30 PM, at the Museum of History and Industry, 2700 24th Avenue East, Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Desjardin, who received his doctorate from the University of Tennessee, has gained wide recognition as a top agaric systematist, particularly in marasmioid fungi. His recent work on tropical fungi has taken him to Hawaii, Africa, New Zealand, Papua, New Guinea, New Caledonia, and Indonesia. At the recent June annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America in Puerto Rico, Dr. Desjardin was honored by his colleagues with a unique double award, the Alexopoulos Prize for outstanding contributions by a young mycologist and the William Weston Award for Excellence in Teaching.

For further information: Ben Woo, 3815 39th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98118  
Phone (206) 722-6109  
Fax (206) 722-3728  
E-mail [Benruwoo@Juno.com](mailto:Benruwoo@Juno.com)

**Address Update: PSMS Identification Chair Brian Luther's** e-mail address is [a2zluther@sprintmail.com](mailto:a2zluther@sprintmail.com).

By the way, Brian says that he was in the Vancouver, B.C., area June 26 and was finding prime yellow chanterelle buttons in abundance on hiking trails. The consistently moist, cool weather this spring has led to one of those early chanterelle seasons that we seem to get about once every 7 years. With luck, the *Cantharellus cibarius* season could continue on into January along the ocean coast—a phenomenal 6-month long chanterelle season!

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Doug Ward



**General Instructions:** Unless stated otherwise, the meeting time at field trips is 9:00 AM at the chosen site. Please bring a basket, knife, wax paper, compass, whistle, water, lunch, and a dish to share if you wish to join

the potluck. Wear warm clothes. Include rain gear in your car or pack and wear hiking shoes or boots. Feel free to bring your friends, family, and sociable dogs.

From 9:00 to 9:30 or 10:00 AM, we check in, have munchies, and talk about the mushrooms we'll be searching for and the area around the camp site. We then head out to hunt in small groups. Identification is from noon to 4 PM. Potluck time is between 4 and 6 PM, decided on by the participants in the morning. The potlucks are always delicious, a lot of fun, and a great time to catch up on socializing. We highly recommend them!

The 2-day field trips can be attended one or both days. Meeting time is 9:00 each morning, with a potluck breakfast on Sunday for interested parties.



**September 12**

**Crystal Springs Forest Camp**  
(elev. 2400 ft, 60 miles east of Seattle)

Drive east on I-90 over Snoqualmie Pass. Continue east for 8 miles and take Stampede Pass exit #62. Turn right at the stop sign. After ¼ mile, before the bridge, turn right to enter the camp.

**September 19–20**

**The Dalles Forest Camp**  
(elev. 2200 ft, 70 miles SE of Seattle)

From Enumclaw, SE of Seattle, continue east and south on State Highway 410 about 25 miles and turn right into the camp.

**September 25–27**

**American River Lodge**  
(elev. 300 ft, 130 miles southeast of Seattle)

From Enumclaw, southeast of Seattle, go east on Hwy. 410 over Chinook Pass; 17 miles past the summit, turn right onto Bumping Lake Road #174. Turn right after 1/4 mile and right again to go uphill and through the gate. Continue for about 1/2 mile to the lodge. Plan on camping overnight in your tent or trailer (the road is steep). The lodge is primitive but is good shelter for the potluck or in case of bad weather. A donation of \$10 for overnight use or \$5 for day use will be appreciated.

**October 3**

**Lake Wenatchee State Park**  
(elev. 1800 ft., 95 miles east of Seattle)

North of Seattle, go east on State Highway 2 over Stevens Pass. (Note: Highway 2 over the pass is undergoing major construction.) Twenty miles east of the summit, turn left on Route 207. Look for the PSMS signs.

**October 10**

**Twanoh State Park**  
(elev. near sea level, 20 miles SW of Seattle by ferry)

Twanoh State Park is on the south side of Hood Canal between Belfair and Union. Take the downtown ferry from Seattle to Bremerton. From Bremerton, drive south on State Highway 304 to Highway 3. Continue south on Highway 3 past Belfair, then bear right onto Highway 106 and continue another 7 miles to the park. Alternatively, you can drive south on I-5 to Tacoma and cross the Narrows Bridge. This adds 60 miles to the trip.

October 17–18

Mountaineers / PSMS Weekend

This is a two-day event in cooperation with The Mountaineers at their Meany Ski Lodge east of Snoqualmie Pass. Saturday includes collecting, setting up display tables, and an evening program. Sunday includes a review of collections, local collecting, and preparing mushrooms for part of our lunch. Accommodations are dormitory. Bring a sleeping bag and pillow, personal items, and a lunch to eat Saturday while collecting. The cost is \$30 and includes Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and Sunday lunch. PSMS chef Wayne Elston and wife Patrice will be the cooks. No alcohol in lodge. No pets. Registration is required. Call The Mountaineers, (206) 284-8484, between September 10 and October 2 to sign up. People cancelling after October 14 must pay for food. The Mountaineers can arrange car pooling. Pay at the Lodge. Participants will meet at the Crystal Springs Forest Campground at 9:30 AM. to go collecting (see directions with Crystals Spring field trip write-up). Group leaders will bring participants back to the lodge about 3 PM. For more information, call Coleman Leuthy, (206) 322-2554, after October 6.

## AMERICAN RIVER FIELD TRIP

Irwin Kleinman

The spring outing to the American River Ski Lodge May 29–June 1 was a success in most aspects of foraging.

Moderate amounts of morels and *Boletus edulis* were found. The weather was reasonable. It was warm during the days and it rained during the nights. The cabin stove worked fine, and thanks to Eleanor Anderson and son Brooke, who brought a truck load of wood, the lodge was warm.

Over 50 different specimens of fungi were identified, by Ed Foy with the help of us neophytes, as no certified identifier was present.

There were potluck suppers both Friday and Saturday evenings. The Saturday potluck was well attended. We had two visitors—guests from Naches Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bakeng. Thirty-eight people signed in, and thirty-four stayed for the potluck, the marshmallow roast, the s'mores, and the tall tales until long after dark. All and all it, was a great weekend. For those of you who haven't experienced the American River Ski Lodge and the huge productive area for both spring and fall mushrooms, there will be one more foray to this area September 25–27. Check your *Spore Prints*.

## BRIDGE CREEK FIELD TRIP REPORT

Russ Kurtz

Twenty people arrived for the field trip to Bridge Creek Campground on June 5, 1998. The Icicle Creek area was well hunted. Most everyone found some morels, but not in great abundance. On large, sound *Boletus edulis* was found. Seventeen species of mushroom were brought in and identified by Sara Clark and Russ Kurtz, who was host. The weather was good, and the wildflowers were great.

Species found consisted of *Amanita pantherina*, *A. gemmata*, *Agrocybe praecox*, *Bisporella citrina*, *Boletus edulis*, *Coprinus micaceus*, *Calvatia subcretacea*, *C. sculpta*, *Cortinarius* sp., *Gomphidius oregonensis*, *Lentinus lepideus*, *Morchella* sp., *Mycena pura*, *Paxillus involutus*, *Peziza* sp., *Phylloporus rhodoxanthus* (a gilled bolete), and *Sarcosoma crassa*.



## TRUFFLE DOG UPDATE

Judy Roger

*Fungifama*, South Vancouver Island Myco. Soc., August 1998

*Fungifama* editor Bryce Kendrick, curious how Judy Roger of the Oregon Mycological Society was coming along training her dog Tamarack to hunt Oregon truffles, interviewed Judy by e-mail. Following is a condensed version of her reply.

Tamarack had been my primo lead dog when I was sled racing, and I fed her truffles and cream cheese on crackers as a treat during the winter months. Well, living on 20 acres of timberland (mostly Douglas fir) provided ample opportunities for finding truffles. Tamarack started finding them herself, digging, and eating them.

I began watching closely, and Tamarack would go out, look around, begin sniffing and scratching the soil. When she found one, she'd pop it up and eat it. If I were too close, she'd lie down on the hole, cross her paws and look innocent, waiting for me to leave. (I had been taking them from her when they were dug.) So, I put a leash on her, and when one was unearthed I'd grab it, praise her vigorously, and divide it with her, or give her some already mixed with cream cheese or butter. When she found one, and started sniffing for more, I'd point to the ground and say "let's find!" By issuing this command regularly, and giving her parts of what she found, I saw some improvement. But she was interested only when the truffles were very ripe, not when they were just maturing. Some dogs will hunt truffles even if they're not fully ripe. Tamarack's behavior, I think, is typical of Siberian Huskies, because they are visual hunters and not scent dogs. They are also a notoriously independent breed. As long as Tamarack felt she was getting something for her efforts, fine, she'd do it, but otherwise, forget it.

So, basically my "training" was first feeding her truffles in a nice matrix, then when she recognized the odor in the wild and began digging, I coupled commands with it and rewarded her with part of the find. Other breeds probably are trained similarly, but will probably respond to praise and other treats rather than sniffles as rewards. Siberians are just smart enough that other rewards don't compute!

## MUSHROOM ASTROLOGY

Bob Lehman, LAMS



Cancer (June 21 – July 22): You are emotional and sentimental about mushroom hunting. You become attached to favorite hunting grounds and are concerned if "outsiders" hunt there. You are also protective about mushroom habitats in general. You like hunting mushrooms with close friends, and you value forays at least as much for the personal relationships as for the mushrooms. You like to reminisce about past mushroom hunts and finds. You are attracted to mushroom cultivation.

## MUSHROOM ASTROLOGY

Bob Lehman, LAMS



Leo (Jul. 23 – Aug. 22): You love to go on club forays, make spectacular mushroom finds, and show them off to everyone else. If others admire your basket full of chanterelles, your day has been a success—even though you may not care much for eating chanterelles yourself. You are delighted to give your mushrooms to anyone who will show appreciation. Even on forays when few mushrooms are to be found, you keep people's spirits high.

## MUSHROOM ASTROLOGY

Bob Lehman, LAMS



Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22): You appreciate the ecological role of mushrooms and have a good sense of where different species can be found. However, you may never get to some of their habitats because you like easy activities and often do your mushroom hunting in city parks and residential areas. You are pleased to share your mushroom hunting territory with others (which is a good thing, since this is often other people's homes!) You consider a foray successful if everyone has gotten something of value from it. You fret over identifications. You have a good feel for the edible qualities of mushrooms even though you may not do much cooking.

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