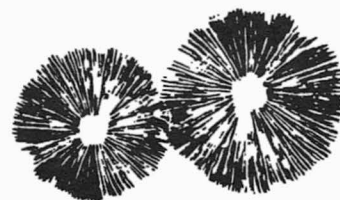


SPORE PRINTS

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Number 364 September 2000



2000 ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Ben Woo & Ron Post



This year's Annual Exhibit will be our 37th. To celebrate this antiquity, we are exhuming the first chairman of the show, Ben Woo, to join with Ron Post in running the exhibit. Brandon Matheny is the technical consultant. All of you are correspondents. We will be in a new location, Sand Point, in a secure environment, the

former Navy brig, from which few mushrooms can escape. The chairs promise a fresh look to the show. The panels that serve as partitions and backdrops are from the original show; their burlap covering is over 20 years old. They will be repaired and given new treatment. Signs and posters are being reviewed and renewed by expert graphic artists. Committee chairs have been enthusiastically stepping forward. Thanks to all.

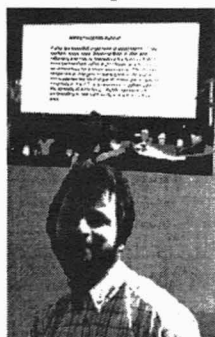
The annual exhibit relies on an annual outpouring of volunteers. Many members come out year after year to contribute their hours and skills. Some have served all 36 years. This is not rocket science. You may be a new member and still find reward in fun and friendship as well as learning more about mushrooms. Sign up for one or more of the committees. Come to the September meeting and speak to Ben or Ron.

Join the teams collecting in widespread habitats for specimens for the display. Russ Kurtz will tell you how at the meeting, and there will be sign-up sheets.

Exhibit posters will also be distributed at the meeting. Paper your neighborhood with them. Grocery stores, restaurants, bookstores, and community centers are prime locations to publicize the show. Only a paltry 500 are available.

As in past years, members will fan out Thursday and Friday to gather specimens for the show. Moss and greenery will also be collected. Keep collections cool and damp for delivery Friday evening. The construction crews will meet Thursday afternoon or evening to repair and remodel the panels and to erect partitions. Tables will be arranged and displays put up on Friday. Friday evening we will receive and pre-sort mushroom collections. Saturday early morning (7:00 AM) will commence the crunch work of arranging trays of pre-sorted collections, identification, and labeling. This will go on all morning to meet the opening deadline of 12:00 noon. Then it's Miller time and on with the show.

You can contact Ben Woo at (206) 722-6409, benruwoo@msn.com, and Ron Post at (206) 783-1244, ronp46@hotmail.com.



Ron Post

NAMA 2000 FORAY, BEAUMONT, TEXAS

Brandon Matheny

The Gulf States Mycological Society, led by Pat and David Lewis, organized and managed to pull off a fabulous gathering of hobbyist and professional mycologists, mushrooms and other fungi, great food, and entertainment alike in Beaumont, Texas, this past early June. The site, about 50 miles from the Gulf Coast and near the border of SW Louisiana, held quite an array of trees and plants, including an odd mingling of Beech and Yucca. Field trip locations tended to be dominated by trees quite unlike those of the Pacific Northwest. These included ectomycorrhizal associates Beech, Oaks, and Longleaf and Loblolly Pines. Magnolias, Cypress, Sweet Gums, and Hickory were also present at many sites.

Nearly 260 collections of mushrooms, boletes, polypores, chanterelles, coral-like fungi, teeth-fungi, and slime molds were vouchered as part of NAMA's ongoing documentation of North American fungal diversity led in large part by Pat Leacock, now at the Field Museum. How many of the fungi documented in the Gulf Coast region occur in the Pacific Northwest? About zilcho!

Both Denis Benjamin and I were simply amazed (and overwhelmed) by the tremendous number of species not recognized by us, though we could recognize the genera to which they belonged. *Amanita*, *Lactarius*, *Russula* and the boletes (*Austroboletus*, *Boletellus*, *Tylophilus*, *Suillus*, *Pulveroboletus*, *Boletus*, *Leccinum*, *Gyroporus*, *Strobilomyces*, *Porphyrellus* and *Xanthoconium*) dominated the mushroom flora (mycota). *Amanita farinosa* is a small, slender species compared to our stout, larger variety in the Puget Sound region, which may not be *A. farinosa* after all according to Rod Tulloss.

Tom Volk discussed how the true *L. sulphureus* actually is limited to oak causing a butt rot. In addition, Scott Redhead presented recent research findings that indicate the Shaggy Mane (*Coprinus comatus*) is, in fact, not a *Coprinus* at all but rather a deliquescent relative of *Agaricus* and *Lepiota* sensu lato. Furthermore, he also discussed that certain puffballs, for example, *Lycoperdon*, are derived descendants of the same ancestors that gave rise to *Agaricus*, and not other Gasteromycetes.

Among other bizarre fungi, we witnessed a number of interesting chanterelles: a cinnabar red chanterelle, the smooth chanterelle, and one chanterelle named after a local watering hole, *Cantharellus tabernensis*. Cheers to the Alamo.

A number of other interesting talks geared for hobbyists were delivered that touched various topics like cooking, the enigmatic William Alphonso Murrill, *Lactarius* of the Gulf Coast, an introduction to molecular biology, diversity of tropical and subtropical fungi, fungi of Taiwan, and the natural history of the Big Thicket, a much valued landscape located just north of Beaumont and managed by the Nature Conservancy.

Finally, I'd like to make a plug for the *Inocybes* in the region. Now Dan Stuntz actually collected many *Inocybes* while visiting Walker, Louisiana, ostensibly home of a relative or two. None of these

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Spore Prints

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PUGETSOUND MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Annual dues \$20; full-time students \$10

CALENDAR

Sept. 12 Membership meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH
Sept. 15 *Spore Prints* deadline (early)
Sept. 16 Ranger Creek Field Trip
Sept. 18 Board meeting, 7:30 PM, CUH Board Room
Sept. 23 Scotty Creek field trip
Sept. 30 Chatter Creek field trip
Oct. 7 Twanoh State Park field trip
Oct. 14-15 Annual Exhibit, Sand Point Brig

BOARD NEWS

Agnes Sieger

Most of the meeting was taken up with discussion of the upcoming Annual Exhibit with Co-Chairs Ron Post and Ben Woo. The treasurer reported that membership dues are down considerably compared to this time last year. Extra expenses were incurred this year as a result of publishing the roster and moving the annual exhibit to a new location. Frances Ikeda and Karin Mendell reported a relatively small turnout for the summer picnic, great weather, good food, and lots of fun, but some parking problems due to heavy use of the park by other large groups. Education Chair Colin Meyer is offering beginning and intermediate classes this fall. Karin Mendell submitted a tentative agenda for the Fall Foray at Lake Quinault November 11-13.

CULTIVATION CORNER

The September cultivation meeting will feature sterilization and preparation of agar media. For information, call Cultivation Chair Ron Holdridge, (206) 789-0601, urmovin@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, September 12, at 7:30 PM at the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle.

Ben Woo will reminisce with slides about past exhibits. Rare and unusual mushrooms brought by our members to the show, some seen for the first time in the Pacific Northwest and some seen once and never again, will be part of his talk. Ron Post and committee chairs will recruit volunteers — "Be the best that you can be." A "How to Collect" chat by Russ Kurtz will coach first-timers on the best ways to dig and keep mushrooms in showroom condition. Posters will be distributed.

Dick Sieger and Patrice Benson are hosting mushrooms, wine, and cheese to put you in the mood for wild volunteering. How can you miss this meeting?

FALL IDENTIFICATION CLASSES

Colin Meyer

Basic ID: The Basic ID class will be held on six consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 7 to 9 PM, at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH), from September 27 through November 1. The focus will be on recognizing some of the common edible and poisonous mushrooms as well as an introduction to the use of dichotomous keys. The required text will be *Mushrooms Demystified*, 2nd ed., by David Arora. The *New Savory Wild Mushroom* by McKenny/Stuntz/Ammirati is highly recommended.

Intermediate ID: The Intermediate class will be held on Thursdays, from 7 to 9 PM, at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH), from September 28 through November 2 for members who are somewhat familiar with mushrooms. The focus of this class will be using dichotomous keys to identify mushrooms. Required texts will be *Mushrooms Demystified*, 2nd ed., by David Arora and *How to Identify Mushrooms to Genus, I: Macroscopic Features*, by David Largent.

Text books will be available at the membership meetings and the first day of class for purchase at a discount price.

Each class costs \$35 and is limited to 20 participants.

To register, please mail a check (made out to PSMS) to:

Colin Meyer
10729 57 AVES.
Seattle, WA 98178-2233

For more information, e-mail cmeyer@helvella.org or phone (206) 722-6687.

OBITUARIES

Helen M. Wasson, 84, hunter, identifier, and lecturer of mushrooms, died June 13, 2000, in Bellevue of pulmonary fibrosis. A once-active member of PSMS, Helen will be remembered by many old-timers.

Dr. Harry D. Thiers, 81, world-renowned mycological educator, researcher, and innovator. Recognized worldwide as the leading authority on boletes and an innovator in the research on secotioid fungi, Dr. Thiers published over 150 new species of fungi. Fourteen different taxa are named in his honor, including the genus *Thiersia*. Although Dr. Thiers' main interests were in the taxonomy and evolution of fleshy fungi, his influence through the training of young mycologists is felt in all subdisciplines of mycology

FALL FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Mike Lovelady

To start off the fall field trip season, we will be going to two new field trip sites, one off highway 410 east of Enumclaw and one off highway 97 on the old Blewit Pass highway.

Hosts are needed for almost all field trips. Please check the following schedule and volunteer to host a field trip of your choice. You do not need to know anything about mushrooms, and it's a great way to meet other PSMS members and find out the latest hot hunting spots. Hosts are especially needed for the Deception Pass field trip, which follows the exhibit and will be attended by many new members.

September 16

Ranger Creek

Drive 29 miles east on Highway 410 from Enumclaw. Make a right on road 7160, between The Dalles and Silver Springs campgrounds. Drive ½ mile. Look for the PSMS signs. Day trip only, no fee.

September 23

Scotty Creek

Take Highway 2 east over Stevens Pass, go through Leavenworth, and continue 3½ miles. Make a right onto highway 97, go 10½ or so miles, and veer right on the Old Blewett Pass hwy/road. Cross three bridges, take the left fork after the third bridge, and follow the PSMS signs to the campground. Camping is optional, primitive but nice. No fee.

September 30

Chatter Creek

(elev. 2400 ft, 150 miles east of Seattle)

Chatter Creek Campground is 16.1 miles up Icicle Creek Road out of Leavenworth. Take Highway 2 over Stevens Pass and proceed 34 miles. (You can also take I-90 over Snoqualmie Pass to exit #85, go over Swauk Pass to Highway 2, and proceed left for 6 miles.) Icicle Creek Road is on the north edge of town. This is a reserved group camp with a shelter. Check in with the campground manager. Friday check-in time is 2 PM. There will be a \$5 camping fee for overnighters. Pay the PSMS field-trip host(s). Overnight.

October 7

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 21

Deception Pass

(elev. near sea level, 80 miles north of Seattle)

From I-5, take exit #226 and go west on route 536 (becomes 20). Turn south, away from Anacortes and toward Whidbey Island. Cross the bridge at Deception Pass to the park and follow PSMS signs to one of the two group camps.

October 28 and 29

The 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. No alcohol in lodge. No pets.

Registration is required. Call The Mountaineers, (206) 284-8484, between October 1 and October 25 to sign up. People cancelling after 5 PM October 25 must pay for food. We may be able to arrange car pools at 8¼ cents/mile or \$10 for this trip. If you need a ride or you can take passengers, say so (and specify how many) when you register and ask when to call back about your ride or riders. Pay at the Lodge.

Participants will meet at the Crystal Springs Forest Campground at 9:30 AM to go collecting. (Go east on I-90, make a right-hand U-turn at Stampede Pass exit 62, and go ¼ mile to campground.) Group leaders will bring participants back to the lodge about 3 PM.

We need mushroom donations for our evening meal. In order to figure out what needs to be purchased, please call and tell Coleman, (206) 322-2554, what and how much you can donate by Wednesday evening, October 25.

LAKE QUINAULT FALL FORAY

Set aside the weekend of November 11–12 now for the PSMS Fall Foray. Once again, the foray will be held at Kamp Kiwanis on the shores of Lake Quinault in the heart of the Olympic Mountains at the edge of Olympic National Park. Foray activities include mushroom collecting, identification, slide presentations, nature walks, and good food. There are sure to be a mushroom tasting and some social activities as well.

POSSIBLE CARPOOLING

D.V. Corey

PSMS is conducting a test to see whether there are enough people wanting company or who need a lift to field trips that we can sustain a regular carpool program. The Master of the Hounds is new member Roy Washington. Call him as early as possible (425) 401-9098, stating which field trip, whether you want to drive or passenger, and your telephone number. Each car will split the cost for gas. Happy hunting.

BRIDGE CREEK FIELD TRIP REPORT Karin Mendell

This is a late report on the last field trip of the spring 2000 season, held June 3 and 4 at Bridge Creek, near Leavenworth, Washington. The foray was well attended, with 30–35 persons present throughout the day and around eight folks spending the night in the group camping sites. The mix of new and seasoned members was especially good.

This was one of the first of the many 70° days we've enjoyed this summer, with bright beautiful sunshine and the vibrant sounds of Bridge Creek boiling over the boulders right beside the campsite. Brenda Fong and Karin Mendell hosted, and (except for the fact that the coffee arrived a little late!) they did a wonderful job.

Brian Luther was the identifier and mycologist-in-residence for the day. He guided us through identification and made suggestions as to where folks might find the last elusive morels, plentiful boletes, and slippery jacks. He intrigued us all with mushroom lore, and we kept him busy with two picnic tables full of specimens to identify.

Michael Lovelady guided many of our new and experienced members to hidden pockets of *Boletus edulis*. He also shared his *Boletus* bounty with us at the potluck, in a pasta and stir-fried veggie and bolete dish. The potluck and fellowship of members visiting throughout the day was especially warm and welcoming. The food was excellent, as usual (we sure know how to cook and eat good in this group), and the company was great!

NAMA, cont. from page 1

have been formally described. However, using Stuntz' unpublished manuscript and having access to his notes and drawings, I was able to identify at least two collections to which Stuntz assigned provisional names. So, I just didn't spend the entire time snarfing pickled *Sparassis*, chugging Texas beers, and two-stepping with older women from New York.

For additional tales, tall and true, see also Alissa Allen and Colin Meyer, who made the trip as part of their vacation plans. I'd like to thank PSMS and the Stuntz Foundation for financial assistance; otherwise I would just have been at home in the Cascades trying to steal Patrice Benson's boletes.

SIX-WEEK MUSHROOM PRE-SEASON MENTAL & PHYSICAL TRAINING REGIMEN D.V. Corey

Six weeks before start:

- talk about mushrooming with everyone you see
- program your mind not to remember the pain (freak'n' hills)
- start your physical training by thinking about being in shape

Five weeks:

- begin practicing the art of bending over
- tie your shoes 3-4 times a day
- lip sink the words "Got some over here!"
- focus your mind on where you've found mushrooms before
- practice climbing over your neighbor's fence

Four weeks:

- prepare your equipment
- walk around the block once to get the heart beat going
- increase the shoe tying to 5-6 times a day

Three weeks

- begin nightly dreaming stage associated with mushrooming
- walk to the grocery and buy butter, eggs, and brown bags

- let your dog out and watch him/her run; imagine keeping that pace for about 8 hours

Two weeks:

- increase walk to three times around block
- begin yelling out loud "Got some over here!!"
- have your mate hide sponges in the yard and go find them

One week:

- rest up after following the stringent regiment above, sit back, and wait for those babies to start popping up!

MUSHROOM-RELATED EVENTS

- Sept. 22-24: Spokane Mushroom Club annual **Priest Lake Foray**, Hill's Resort, Priest Lake, Idaho (509) 838-1151
- Oct. 7 Joint Vancouver Mycological Society/South Vancouver Island Mycological Society **Fall Foray**, Masachie Lake, Vancouver Island, (250) 655-5051
- Oct. 13-15: Oregon Mycological Society **Fall Foray**, (503) 762-0469
- Oct. 22: **Fall Mushroom Show**, Snohomish County Mycological Society, (425) 317-9411
- Oct. 22: **Fall Mushroom Show**, Oregon Mycological Society,
- Oct. 26-29: **Breitenbush Foray**, "Wild Mushrooms '00," \$235. Information and registration: Breitenbush (502) 854-3314.
- Oct. 27-29: **Mushroom Classes**, "Northwest Mushroom Ecology," Dr. Fred Rhoades, Chinook Learning Center on Whidbey Island, \$185, one credit, 15 hours. For more information contact the North Cascades Institute at (360) 856-5700 ext. 209 or e-mail nci@nccascades.org

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