



MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN? Monday, April 27, 2015 – The Fourth Monday of the month.

WHAT TIME? 6:30 pm; The meeting will come to order at 7:00 pm.

WHERE? Bear Creek Park, Administration Building

Website: www.pikespeakmushrooms.org

Contact: PPMSmail@gmail.com

PROGRAM:

Brian Barzee will present a fun reflection on the origins and early days of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society, complete with slides (old school...), and by digital projector. Anyone with early photos, can add –using slides and/or jpeg files on flash drive – as time provides. He will also cover last year's accomplishments, and ask for thoughts on mycological goals – both individual goals and as a club for 2015.

2015 Dues are Due!

The PPMS board of directors met in early April and decided to incentivize the membership to pay their dues on time. They are due at the April meeting. Therefore, dues for 2015 will be \$20/\$25 for email/print editions (the same as last year) only if you pay your dues at/before the April meeting. After that, they will increase to \$25/\$30.

PPMS Officer Nominations

At the top of this month's meeting agenda is the voting for new club officers. Martha Zenger has been busily twisting arms to get the following dedicated members to step up this year.

President: Brian Barzee

Vice-President: Ashley Anderson

Treasurer: Frieda Davis

Secretary: Hoa Pham

Foray Coordination: Hoa Pham

Newsletter Editor: Bud Bennett

A Message From Our Librarian

Brian Barzee would like you to know a few things about the PPMS library:

1. The library is usually not carried to the meetings any more. If you are interested in a particular book (you can find the library book list on the website under the Members Only page) call him prior to the meeting and he will make the book available at the meeting.
2. Brian is willing to lend library books anytime - just call him to make arrangements for checking a book out.
3. The Pikes Peak Library District is also a great great resource for information about mushrooms.
4. Contact Brian if you want to suggest an addition to our library.

Changes to Mystery Mushroom

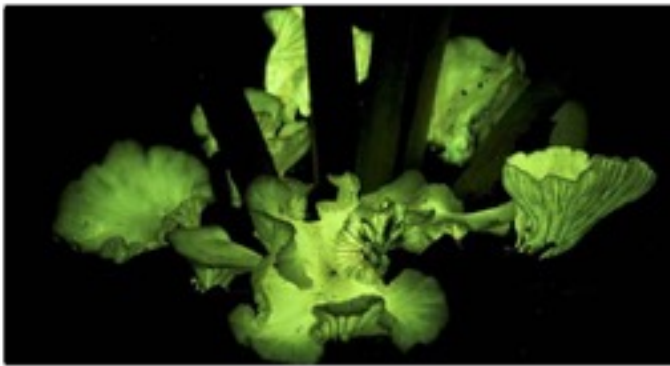
The PPMS board of directors decided to do away with the Mystery Mushroom contest usually held at the general meeting. Instead, the Mystery Mushroom will be published in this newsletter (you can find it on the last page) as a personal challenge, or homework, if you like. The answers to the Mystery Mushroom challenge will be published in the following month's newsletter. We hope that every member will take up the challenge to hone and broaden their mycological knowledge.

Call for Newsletter Articles:

Yes, every year I put this in the April newsletter... If you find an article about mushrooms that you think would be of interest to the PPMS membership please send it (or the link) to PPMSmail@gmail.com. Or you can write your own article and send it in as well. I will publish almost anything...really! You can also send a mushroom photo of a mushroom that you have identified and I will try find a place for it somewhere.

Photo Roundup Program at the September Meeting

The program for this September's meeting will be a collection of photos, taken by members during the season, that sums up the year. We need you photos to make this program a success. Take your camera with you when you foray and don't be afraid to get your knees dirty.



Dude, why is my mushroom glowing?

Scientists have long wondered what possible reason there could be for a fungus to glow. They now have an answer. Researchers said last week that experiments in Brazil involving the big, yellow mushroom called "flor de coco," meaning coconut flower, showed its nighttime bioluminescence attracted insects and other creatures that could later spread its spores around the forest. "Our research provides an answer to the question, 'Why do fungi make light?' that was first asked, at least first asked in print, by Aristotle more than 2,000 years ago," said biochemist Cassius Stevani of Brazil's Instituto de Química-Universidade de São Paulo. "The answer appears to be that fungi make light so they are noticed by insects who can help the fungus colonize new habitats."

Geneticist and molecular biologist Jay Dunlap of Dartmouth College's Geisel School of Medicine said bioluminescence had independently evolved many times in such diverse life forms as bacteria, fungi, insects and fish. "Most of these make light in their own way, that is, with biochemistry that is unique to each organism," Mr. Dunlap said. Of the 100,000 known fungus species, 71 are bioluminescent. The species in the study, published in the journal *Current Biology*, is one of the biggest and brightest of them. The researchers found a circadian clock regulates its bioluminescence, glowing only at nighttime.

They created two sets of plastic mushroom replicas, one with LED lights replicating bioluminescence and a second set with no light. Suspecting the glow might be used to entice insects, they put glue on both sets of phony mushrooms in forest locations where real ones grow, then tracked the beasties that got stuck. The glowing replicas lured an array of ants, cockroaches, flies, beetles, spiders, harvestmen, slugs, snails and centipedes. Such creatures, after crawling on a real bioluminescent mushroom, disperse fungal spores around the forest. Mr. Dunlap speculated that many of Earth's bioluminescent mushrooms likely developed their glow for that purpose. -- Reuters

New Species Of Mushroom Discovered On Roadside Look Like Fun Guys

A newly discovered species of fungus with an uncanny resemblance to little humans has been found on the roadside in Norfolk, UK.

With fleshy heads, arms and legs, the mushrooms, discovered by Jonathan Revett in Cockley Cley, Norfolk have just been classified as a new species in the world.

Having been interested in mycology - the study of fungus - for more than 40 years, Jonathan, 49, sent the mushrooms off to Kew Gardens for testing.

He said: 'It's really strange how their shape makes them look like they have a head and arms. That's what drew my attention to them.'

The mushrooms have been named as *Geastrum britannicum* to reflect them being unique to the UK.

Jonathan - who runs the mycology website fenfungi.com - said: 'It felt brilliant knowing I'd found something new.'

Since Jonathan's original find, three more specimens have been collected in Norfolk and the fungus has also been found in Hampshire and the Welsh Borders.

Carl Chapman, of Norfolk-based Wildlife Tours and Education called the discovery 'riveting stuff'.

He said: 'This is not just a new species for Norfolk - this is a new species for the world.'



The Pikes Peak Mycological Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of mycology, publishes Spore-Addict Times monthly from April-September. Membership is open to anyone wanting to study mycology. Annual dues are \$25 for individual and family memberships (\$30 for a printed newsletter). **Submission of ideas, articles, reviews, letters, artwork and recipes are welcome.**

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Mystery Mushroom

You have just stumbled upon this mushroom, attached to the ground in a forest mixed with pine and Douglas fir. Looking down at it, the cap appears to be 10cm wide, slightly depressed at the center, with concentric rings of red-brown and orange. You pick it and turn it over. The adnate gills are purplish-red and stained green where wounded. The hollow stalk is 5cm long, about 1cm thick, and equal along its length.

Hmmm...you mutter to yourself as you slice through some of the brittle gill blades. After a while there appears a dark red "blood" oozing from the sliced gills. Ah ha! Now it's name is revealed to you.

What is it?

The Spore-Addict times is the official newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society (PPMS) and is published monthly April - September. All articles appearing in this newsletter may be freely reproduced, unless otherwise noted, for use in other newsletters provided the source and author are acknowledged. We consider this to be a reciprocal agreement for clubs that send their newsletter to us unless we are advised to the contrary.

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