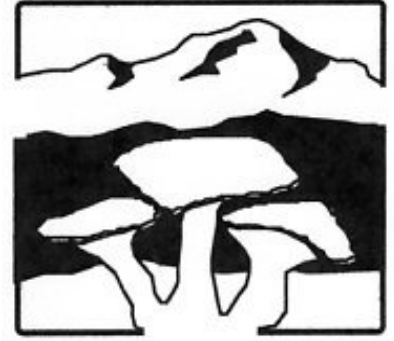


Spore-Addict Times



The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society

1974 – 2008

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MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN? Monday, April 28, 2008 – The Fourth Monday.

WHAT TIME? 6:00 PM; the meeting will come to order at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 28, 2008. We are offering a one-hour study class before the general meeting for those interested in studying and identifying mushrooms. If you are a rank beginner, or an old pro, you will get some useful information.

WHERE? Pikes Peak National Bank, 2401 W. Colorado Ave. (across from Bancroft Park). Enter at the door on Colorado Ave., just west of the bank door. There you will find stairs and an elevator. You may use either. The room is on the second floor near the head of the stairs.

PROGRAM

Lee Barzee will present *Spring Mushrooms* as a reminder of what we can expect to find at this time of the year. Last year's program about the same subject was so well received that we thought we would do it again. Lee suggests that attendees take notes, as it will focus on some ecology and words to help learning. Also, bring a copy of *Mushrooms of Colorado*, if you have one, since Lee will give page numbers for reference information.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES: by Elsie Pope

Greetings, fellow mycologists. It's springtime in the Rockies and time to gear up for another year of fungal fun and fantasy. You all know what that means - what is Spring, and are we having fun yet.

A huge "thank you" to the Nominating Committee for their hard work calling everyone, and congratulations to them for coming up with some good folks willing to help out their Society.

Esther Price, Eve Hart, and Liz Ras offer these names for your consideration for officers 2008; Elsie Pope for president, Peter Tschur for vice-president, Don Pelton for secretary, and Frieda Davis for treasurer. The Committee was pleased to report to the Board that Bud Bennett will serve as editor of the Spore-Addict Times, and Esther Price will act as Foray Coordinator. Our new Librarian is Judy Willey, and Martha Zenger will head up the Hospitality Committee. All of them will be calling on you for your help and cooperation through the year.

Librarian Judy Willey will have a list of our books including two new titles, but there are two books still out that should be returned at this meeting. We also have a few T-shirts left, 7 L and 4 XL at \$8.00 each.

Do you ever read the fine print? Article II of our Bylaws says that the purpose of the Society is to advance the understanding and to stimulate the interest of the members in the field of mycology by providing opportunities for study, arranging forays, and exchanging information. We are also enjoined to support efforts to preserve Open Space in the state of Colorado where it is in the best interest of the Society to do so. Also in Article II, members are prohibited from collecting mushrooms for commercial purposes.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES:

In accordance with the By-laws, dues, in the amount of \$15.00, are due and payable on or before the April monthly meeting. If you still have not paid, please pay at the April meeting or mail the payment to PPMS, PO Box 39, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0039. Thanks!

As a special incentive, all those who pay their dues by or at the April meeting will be eligible for a drawing; the prize will be a mushroom growing kit from Black Mountain Mushrooms in Guffey!

FORAY REPORT:

FORAY SCHEDULE AND RULES

We will be publishing the foray schedule with the leaders' names and phone numbers in the newsletter each month. To go on any of the forays simply call the leader to find out where and what time to meet. You must have your dues paid for the current year and you must have a signed liability waiver on file to go on forays. **If you want to lead a foray call Esther Price at 632-5880. Esther is also the contact for ad hoc forays. Check with her to see if anyone has decided to go on an ad hoc foray that does not appear on the schedule.**

Some forays will probably be to unscouted areas. Foray leaders do not guarantee success.

Schedule

(No forays scheduled)

BOOKS – New and Missing

The library has replaced its second copy of *Mushrooms of Colorado* by Vera Evenson. A new book was purchased in January: *Field Guide to North American Truffles*, by Matt Trappe, Frank Evans and James Trappe. Here is a short synopsis, excerpted from H.Grove and Amazon.com:

"If you think that hunting truffles would make a cool hobby...particularly given the newness of the sport and the possibility for finding and identifying new species, this is an indispensable book to have in your pocket."

"Along with an introduction covering plenty of general tips on truffle hunting, the book includes detailed pages on many species of truffle. These include photographs, of course, and it's amazing to discover the vast range of colors, patterns, shapes, sizes, etc. among truffles! The season during which each truffle can be found is noted; for instance, the *Trappea darkeri*'s season is April – November. Distribution comes next, anything from the vague 'Western North America' to the incredibly specific 'Only in western Oregon and northern California in lowland to foothill forests.' Habitat describes, usually, the type of trees under which the truffle variety is found."

"Since photos and descriptions sometimes aren't enough for identification, spore information is included as well – starting with a photograph of the spores (generally taken through a microscope). Spore notes include size in micrometers and a

general description, and sometimes include notes on the particular dye or solution used to bring out certain features."

"Features' and 'Comments' sections provide plenty of information to help you further identify the particular fungus you've found, often including internal physical details found upon cutting the specimen open as well as notes on odor and culinary value."

"Finally, each entry ends with a brief section labeled simply DR for 'desirability rating,' or how desirable the NATS has deemed the truffle to be for culinary uses. This ranges from unknown or inedible to the entertaining label of 'insipid', the damning-with-faint-praise 'palatable,' and finally a rare few species labeled tasty or delicious."

"If you think you you'd be interested in digging up some truffles, this is an absolutely invaluable little book for helping you to figure out what you've got on your hands!"

To check this book out, or others, see Judy Willey during the next meeting. Judy can be contacted at 471-8329.

Newsorthy:

Mushroom extract may stop breast cancer growth

LONDON (Reuters 4/15/2008) - Extracts from a mushroom used for centuries in Eastern Asian medicine may stop breast cancer cells from growing and could become a new weapon in the fight against the killer disease.

Laboratory tests using human breast cancer cells show the mushroom called *Phellinus linteus* has a marked anti-cancer effect, probably by blocking an enzyme called AKT. AKT is known to control signals that lead to cell growth.

Phellinus linteus -- called song gen in Chinese medicine, sang-hwang in Korean and meshimak-oku in Japanese -- has previously been shown to have anti-tumor properties on skin, lung and prostate cancer cells. The new research on breast cancer, however, marks the first time that scientists have started to understand how it works.

Dr Daniel Sliva of the Methodist Research Institute in Indianapolis said the mushroom extract reduced uncontrolled growth of new cancer cells, suppressed their aggressive behavior and blocked new tumor-feeding blood vessels.

"We're not yet able to apply this knowledge to modern medicine, but we ... hope our study will encourage more researchers to explore the use of

medicinal mushrooms for the treatment of cancer," he said.

The findings were reported in the British Journal of Cancer.

Photo Gallery

The foray to Buena Vista and St. Elmo was mentioned in the September 2007 *Spore-Addict Times*. Here are a few photos to share from that trip.



Buena Vista foray female contingent: front from left: Ester Price, Martha Zenger, back from left: Renee Bennett, Liz Ras, Judy Willey, Freia Bradford, Lee Barzee.



Buena Vista foray male contingent: from left: Richard Mattedi, John Bradford, Helmut Zenger, Jack Richards, Peter Tschur, Bud Bennett.



***Peziza sylvestris* (or close relative)**



***Agaricus* sp.**

The Pikes Peak Mycological Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of mycology, publishes Spore-Addict Times monthly from April-October. Membership is open to anyone wanting to study mycology. Annual dues are \$ 15 for individual and family memberships.

Submission of ideas, articles, reviews, letters, artwork and recipes are welcome.

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MYSTERY MUSHROOM

The mystery mushroom for September 2007 was a *Catathelasma imperiale*, AKA *C. imperialis* and it was correctly named by several people. Frieda Davis was picked as the winner.

MYSTERY MUSHROOM

by Frieda Davis

I am a spring mushroom and belong to the group of Ascomycetes. My typical shape is somewhat reminiscent of a stinkhorn but I do not have a volva and I am not coated with slime. My cap is brown, smooth or slightly wrinkled and the sides are free like a skirt. My stalk is white to tan or tinged with small slightly darker scales. My stalk is attached only at the very top. I am rather fragile and not recommended for the dinner table.

Who am I?

The Spore-Addict times is the official newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society (PPMS) and is published monthly April – October. 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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