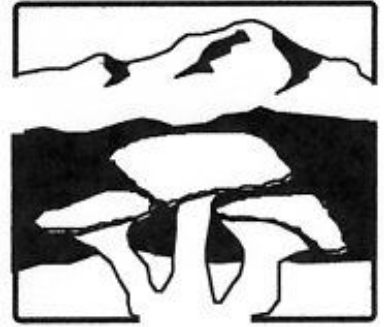


# Spore-Addict Times



The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society

1974 – 2006

Vol. XXXII

ISSUE 4

July 2006

## MONTHLY MEETING:

**WHEN?** Monday July 24, 2006

**WHAT TIME?** 6:30 PM; the meeting will come to order at 7:00 PM

**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:**

**Mushroom kits – four esteemed members of PPMS will present their experience with growing shitake, maitake, reishi and hericium mushrooms.**

### **EDITORS NOTES:**

Dr. Robert Noyd's program on identification of common trees and shrubs in Colorado was quite a success. We all got a chance to identify types of trees from several samples he brought in for that purpose. A somewhat more challenging exercise was identification of common broadleaf trees and shrubs by leaf silhouette. Thank you Bob!

The foray on June 29 was very adventurous and memorable to all of those attending. Those mountain roads change from season to season and unexpected situations do arise, such as rock slide in this case. Fortunately it all ended well.

The following mushrooms have been found during that foray. The list has been compiled by Lee Barzee .

1. *Clitocybe gibba*
2. *Laccaria laccata*.
3. *Leccinum aurantiacum*
4. *Cortinarius croceus*
5. *Rickenella fibula*
6. *Inocybe* sp.
7. *Inocybe maculata*
8. *Hydnum (Dentinum) repandum*
9. *Fomitopsis pinicola*
10. *Suillus* sp.

With the recent onset of the monsoon season mushrooms are starting to fruit. A brief tour of my surrounding area resulted in discovery of several edibles such as *Boletus barowsii*, lots of *agaricus* sp., abundance of assorted *suillus* sp., a few nice size *calvatia booniana*. There was also a bit of fungi color as several *Amanita muscaria* made their appearance. They are still outnumbered by the prolific *Amanita pantherinas*. Any forays from now on should be very rewarding. Just in case you did not get to see any of the above mentioned fungi here is the sample found in Monument.



## Mystery mushroom

Aericha Burroughs has correctly identified last month's mystery mushroom to be *Clitocybe gibba*. See photo below.



More photos of mushrooms found on 7/11/06 in the Monument area. All were growing in residential areas. Photograph of *Amanita muscaria* on previous page was taken in Fox Run Park



## 'Magic Mushrooms' Are Studied Anew

I was quite surprised when looking through Tuesdays Wall Street Journal (7/11/06) to find an article on psychedelic mushrooms. It mentions a study that could revive interest in researching the effects of such substances. Scientists indicated a substance in certain mushrooms induced powerful, mind altering experiences among a group of well-educated, middle aged men and women. The study conducted by John Hopkins Medical Institutions researches was first of this kind in 40 years. Further research into such agents has the potential for unlocking secrets of consciousness and lead to new therapeutic strategies for depression, addiction and other ailments.

The study was co-sponsored by the National Institute for Drug Abuse, which also warned against eating psilocybe mushrooms (Schedule I Substance under the U.S. Controlled Substances Act). The psilocybin used in the study was synthesized under special approval from the DEA, FDA and an institutional review board at Hopkins. A detailed report on this study is published online in a journal of Psychopharmacology.



After reading this article I have decided to do some more reading on the subject. I do not recall ever seeing a psilocybe mushroom not even at the CMS mushroom fair. Using David Arora *Mushrooms Demystified* and *Medicinal Mushrooms* by Christopher Hobbs, I came to the conclusion that it would take some serious investigation to find and identify them as they fall into the category of LBMs and there are lots and lots of those. It makes me wonder how many

psilocybe experts various drug enforcement agencies have and what are their methods for positive identification of those mushrooms. Perhaps they do call on local mushroom clubs for help as it tends to be done with mushroom poisonings. My curiosity has been awakened and where previously I tended to ignore the “little brown mushrooms” now they get careful inspection and even a spore print.

### **Exposing Mushrooms to UV Light Increases Nutrition**

*Reprinted from MushRumrs*

“Mushrooms may soon emerge from the dark as an unlikely but significant source of vitamin D, the sunshine vitamin that helps keep bones strong and fights disease” a quote from recent Yahoo news item by Andrew Bridges (April 18,2006)

“new research, while preliminary, suggests that brief exposure to ultraviolet light can zap even the blandest and whitest farmed mushrooms with a giant serving of the vitamin” The Food and Drug Administration proposed the study, which is being funded by the Mushroom Council (mushroomcouncil.org).

Results presented at the FDA’s annual science forum indicate that a standard serving size of white button mushrooms exposed post-harvest to UVB for 5 min contained 3476IU vitamin D<sub>2</sub> or 869% of the Daily Value.

### **Sad News from Colorado Mycological Society newsletter**

Dr.Orson K. Miller has passed away on Friday, June 9, 2006. He had been diagnosed with and had surgery for brain tumor about a year ago. The surgery and subsequent radiation treatments have been successful until recently on the foray in Bend Oregon the symptoms reappeared. He was hospitalized in Bend and Boise, then transferred to Boise rehabilitation facility where he died suddenly with his wife Hope at his side. Many of you knew Dr. Miller, as he was a great contributor to the field of mycology and CMS. The Millers wrote several books both individually and together. The one most of us have perused at one time or another is “Mushrooms of North America”.

The CMS obituary was written By Marilyn Shaw

### **Banana fungus**

There was a potato blight which wiped out the entire crop of potatoes in 1846 in Ireland, then it was Plasopara Viticola which causes mildew on grapes (in the 1870 it almost wiped out the entire French wine industry) and now the scientists have discovered in Asia a fungus which has been destroying Cavendish banana plantations.

In an effort to save the banana from its demise two strategies are put in place. In one scientists are trying to genetically alter the Cavendish (the variety currently consumed by us) to make it more resistant to this fungus. The other method is for growers to develop another variety of banana similar to Cavendish.

The second approach has seen prior success as up to 1960 Americans ate Gros Michael bananas which were killed of by different fungus, and subsequently replaced by the Cavendish.

(New York Times, August 13, 2005) From the CMS May newsletter

**Spore-Addict Times**  
**P.O. Box 39**  
**Colorado Springs CO 80901-0039**

**Mystery Mushroom** by Aericha Burroughs

I am shaped like little ears; 2-10 cm across; gelatinous; and grow on dead conifer logs. The undersurface is reddish brown, strongly veined and minutely hairy. I have white spores and rubbery flesh. I cannot tell you the Order, because it will give the answer away, but the Family is "Jew's Ear". You might have tried this at a Chinese restaurant when you ordered "Garlic Chicken".

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.

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.** PIKES PEAK MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY PO Box 39 Colorado Springs, Co. 80901-0039

President - - Elsie Pope ..... 596-4901  
Vice President.....  
Secretary – Don Pelton..... 634-0837  
Treasurer-Frieda Davis ..... 630-7140  
Hospitality- Elsie Pope..... 596-4901  
Foray Coord: Eva Mattedi ... 687-9848  
Newsletter Editor: Grazyna Benda  
[graz.benda@adelphia.net](mailto:graz.benda@adelphia.net) 488-9751  
Assistant Editor Sidney Benda