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SPORE-ADDICT TIMES

The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society
2001

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JUNE

MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN? Monday, June 25th

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

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.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES: by Bob Noyd

The recent rainfall (or my over watering) has brought an abundance of mushrooms to my backyard. Growing on my lawn in a large (6-8) cluster are fruiting bodies that have the following characteristics:

- **Cap** – ~3-5 cm wide; conical shape (some have a slight knob), smooth with some cracking later in development; yellowish brown with a darker brown apex, remnants of the veil are present on the margin
 - **Gills** – attached to stalk; crowded; a beige, pallid color that turns brown with time
 - **Spore print** – dark brown
 - **Stalk** – slender about 4-8 cm tall; small trace of the annulus present on some; the flesh is pale
- I used Vera's *Mushrooms of Colorado* to identify it. Bring your answer to the meeting on June 25th and I will reveal my thoughts about its true identity.

The results from my member survey at the last meeting show much agreement about the club and what makes it tick. I'd like to share many of the responses.

What do you most enjoy about the club? Sharing experiences, going on forays, learning about mushrooms, mushrooms that are displayed, the people, camaraderie, learning opportunities, learning about edible mushrooms and how to prepare them, sharing experiences, the newsletter, friendships, and hearing about personal experiences of others'.

What kinds of programs do you most enjoy? Slide presentations, show and tell, personal experiences, discovering the individuality of mushrooms, guest speakers, handouts, mushrooms of the month presentations, last year's photography presentation, mushroom identification, identification techniques, hands on identification.

Why do you go on mushroom forays? To find mushrooms and learn, learn and have fun, to learn from experts, identification of new mushrooms, to find mushrooms to eat, dry, and freeze; collect edible mushrooms, enjoy Mother Nature.

What makes a foray successful? Membership cooperation and exchange of information, if the participants enjoy the experience, good leadership, people participating and coming together after gathering and identifying them, finding mushrooms, good turn out of members, finding different types of fungi, finding a variety of fungi.

Does not knowing where the foray is going prevent your participation? Seventeen said no, 4 said yes, and others said it depends on travel time.

The **program** this month is a guest speaker. **Todd Soderberg** from the Denver club will give a hands-on demonstration on “How to Cultivate Mushrooms.” Todd teaches mushroom cultivation at the annual Mushroom Fair at the Denver Botanic Garden and in his high school microbiology classes. It promises to be a great meeting! See you there.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES

By-laws of the club state: “Members who have not paid their annual dues by the 15th of July will be dropped from the active membership list and will no longer be permitted to go on forays and they will not receive the monthly newsletter”.

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 Glenn Lorang**, our foray coordinator, **at 576-1742**. Some forays will probably be to un-scouted areas. Foray leaders do not guarantee success.

Schedule

July 28	Brian Barzee	634-4715
August 18	Eva Mattedi	687-9848
*August 24	Dennis Craig	596-5676

*Note: To collect all kinds of fungi for the Fair.

FORAY REPORT

June 2nd by Frieda and George Davis

There were 15 members on the foray, including the leaders. (I had to recruit George to split off with half of the group). George and I had checked the area the day before so we knew where some morels were fruiting. This was important because several members on the hunt had never found a morel or even seen one growing. It was very important to us that they see some morels fruiting on this foray. Within that context, the foray was a success. Even though some areas had been foraged the day before we were able to find enough to provide most of the new members with enough to prepare a recipe and develop an appreciation for the wonderful flavor of fresh “mountain grown” black morels. The rest of us deferred to the new members to make sure they had enough for at least a taste.

June 9, Pat Gustavson: Some sporting events are canceled because of rain; Pat's scheduled foray was canceled because of the *lack* of rain.

June 16, Gerry Clark: This foray also was canceled because of the lack of rain.

Mushroom Fair 2001 by Ken Pals

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the Mushroom Fair 2000 at Fountain Creek Nature Center on Saturday and Sunday, August 25 & 26 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Pikes Peak Mycological Society (PPMS) and El Paso County Parks, the fair provides an excellent venue for sharing and discovering the fascinating world of mushrooms with people throughout the region. Last year, PPMS members and the general public brought about 90 species of mushrooms for display. Can we do better this year? We need your help to make this possible. We will need people to assist with a hospitality table to provide information about PPMS, the fair, and to receive mushrooms for identification. Several people are needed to serve as interpreters to assist the visitors in learning more about the displayed mushrooms. A few members of the club will serve as our identifiers. Saturday will be the bigger day as far as visitation goes, and we will need more people to help that day. We could also use one or two people on Sunday. Call Ken Pals at 520-6745 with any suggestions or ideas and whether you can help on either Saturday or Sunday. Finally, we will need all members to participate in bringing mushrooms to the fair.

Fountain Creek Nature Center is about ten miles south of Colorado Springs. Take I-25 south to Exit 132 (Widfield-Security). Go east on Highway 16 for about one-half mile and exit right to Highway 85. Turn right on Highway 85 and go south for one-half mile and turn right (west) onto Cattail Marsh Road and proceed to the nature center.

CMS's 26th Mushroom Fair is being planned for Sunday, August 19th, 2001.

Please go foraging in the days before the fair. Bring the mushrooms you find to Mitchell Hall at the Denver Botanic Gardens, on Saturday afternoon after 1:00 PM, or on Sunday morning between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The fair will be open to the public from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday. Orson Miller will be the official identifier this year. Orson will speak Monday evening, Aug. 20. His topic will be; "Reflections on Australian Fungi".

We start sorting and identifying mushrooms on Saturday afternoon at 1:00 PM in Mitchell Hall. We start setting up on Sunday morning at 8:00 AM. New members are invited to help. This is a chance to learn more about mushrooms and make some interesting new friends!

The public is invited to bring mushrooms they have found to the Fair for identification.

Telluride Mushroom Conference will be held August 23-26th, 2001. The festival is designed for persons interested in mushroom identification of edible, poisonous and psychoactive wild mushrooms and mushroom cultivation.

Gary Lincoff, author of the Audubon Field Guide to North American Mushrooms will conduct a course in Mushroom Identification; Paul Stamets, author of Growing Gourmet and Medicinal Mushrooms, on Mushroom Cultivation; and Andrew Weil, author of Eating Well for Optimum Health on Mushrooms and Health. John Corbin, Linnea Gillman, and Emanuel Salzman will also present some interesting programs.

For further information, contact Fungofile: P.O. Box 480503, Denver, CO 80248-0503. Ph. 303-296-9359.

Creede, CO Annual Foray: Date to be announced. Contact Mineral County Chamber of Commerce (719) 658-2374 or, if you have a computer, go to: <http://www.creede-co.com/>.

PPMS FORAY RULES

(Abridged and edited)

The Foray Leader establishes the specific rules for the foray and:

1. Selects the foray site.
2. Determines the initial meeting place and departure time.
3. Checks eligibility and records who is on the foray (current member and signed waiver).
4. Leads the group to the location selected for the hunt.
5. Conducts the pre-briefing at each site.
6. Establishes what time the foray group will return to the departure point.
7. Conducts a post foray identification discussion and records particulars of the hunt (Success or failure).
8. Insures that all foray participants are present or accounted for.
9. Organizes a search for any missing participants.
10. Officially terminates the foray.

Note: Rules were published at the request of members; the unabridged, unedited version is available from the club secretary.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

CALVATIA CASSEROLE by Doris Bennett

Source: Mushrooms of Colorado and Adjacent Areas, Mary Hallock Wells and D.H. Mitchell, M.D. (1966)

Clean, slice and inspect large or small puffballs. In a buttered casserole arrange **layers** of puffballs (salted and peppered), packaged herb stuffing, and sliced American cheese, finishing with the cheese. Pour over this ½ to 1 cup seasoned tomato or V-8 juice and bake for 30 to 45 minutes in a 350 deg. oven. Coprinus micaceus may be used instead of puffballs. If using this moist mushroom cut the liquid to about 1/3 of a cup.

Doris says “ this is one of those ‘by guess and by gosh’ recipes”. She adds, “I like to add browned sausage (either regular or Italian) between the layers”.

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 for use in other newsletters provided the source and author are acknowledged unless other- wise noted. We consider this to be a reciprocal agreement for clubs that send their newsletters to us unless we are advised to the contrary.

Some club members on the June 2nd foray.
Photo by Bud Bennett



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

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