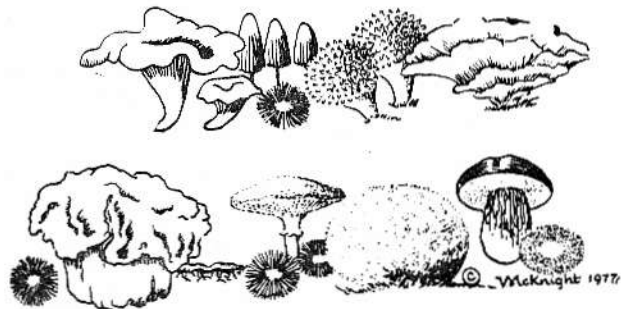




SPORE-ADDICT TIMES

NEWSLETTER

April 1984



ALL MUSHROOM LOVERS - ATTENTION!!!!

We are happy to report a very successful meeting with brand-new members, some of our past members, and a whole bunch of our current members. Practically the only one missing was our President who was stranded in a snow bank in Missouri. While he was gone, we duly voted him into office for another year, together with Lee Barzee, V-P, Pat Gustavson - Treas., Barbara Laura - Secretary. We will be calling you to have you "volunteer" for our much-needed committies; i.e., Telephone, Refreshment, Program, and Hospitality. If these are already filled, and you have an idea for some other project, please pass that on also.

APRIL MEETING - APRIL 23rd, 7:30, Rastall Center. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS THE MONDAY NIGHT AFTER EASTER. Program will be a round-table discussion and learning session. Please bring your books, slides and identification charts and all your questions. We will be working together to identify fungi, concentrating on spring mushrooms.

We wish to thank Don Berrigan and the Urbans for taping and presenting to us the film last month called "The Rotten World About Us". I thought it terrific and would like to see it part of our permanent collection to review from time to time. (Editor's comment only).

DUES: \$5.00 per family due NOW



FLASH! FLASH! LAST MINUTE REPORT ON MIRACULOUS SURVIVAL OF 14 PHALLOIDES VICTIMS

(A sketchy summary)

Several Laotian families, as a group, collected Am-anita phalloides in Napa county on Friday or Saturday, December 16th or 17th, and enjoyed them in a communal meal on Saturday afternoon. Using a folk "test" for poisons, they boiled the mushrooms with rice, to see if it would turn reddish. (It would be interesting to know what two Laotian mushrooms, if any, this test can distinguish.) Different people ate different amounts but the language barrier kept us from finding out just how much.

Ten to twelve hours later, fourteen people got severe gastrointestinal symptoms, but did not go to the hospital until about thirty hours after consumption. Brookside Hospital in San Pablo called Paul Vergeer at 7pm Sunday. He went right over and identified mushrooms from 2/3 of a cap and a Meixner test. He gave the physician on call, Dr. Amacker, the treatment instruction sheet prepared by Dr. Duffy (MSSF Tox Cte. chairperson) and suggested that they mobilize staff and contact Duffy. Paul also left a copy of the MSSF republication of his book, Poisonous Mushrooms, (originally a chapter in Fungi Pathogenic for Humans and Animals (Marcel Dekker, Inc.) for the staff to read and prepare themselves for future developments. He stayed at the emergency room until 11:30pm, and Tom Duffy was consulted several times by phone. Eventually, seven patients were admitted at Brookside, two each at Alta Bates and SF General, and three children at Children's hospital in Oakland.

All patients received only supportive care, including the introduction of a charcoal-saline solution slurry to the stomach to reduce absorption of the amatoxins, and their recirculation.

Extensive media coverage was given, including national television. Bill Freedman, another doctor cum MSSF mainstay, appeared on the NBC nightly News.

As of three days before Christmas, all patients were doing reasonably well.

From Mycena News-San Francisco-January 84.

MAW, Mycological Association of Washington, is offering stationery by Vera McKnight, 16 sheets, 12 envelopes, pale blue or beige, bordered with drawings of many mushroom species. \$4 ppd.

4 notepads, 4"x5½", white, each with a different mushroom motif Set \$3 ppd.

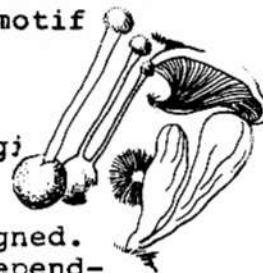
Bumper Stickers

'Mycology Is Mushrooming'

'Mycologists Have More Fungi' each: \$1.30 ppd.

Stained Glass Mushrooms

Your favorite, custom designed. \$1-3 each fruiting body, depending on size & type, plus corresponding postage.



Order from Gwen Luttrell, 9408 Byeforde Rd., Kensington, MD 20895.