

**SPORE-ADDICT TIMES**

**PIKES PEAK MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF COLORADO SPRINGS  
MAY 1986 NEWSLETTER**

**NOTICE!!!!!! CHANGE OF MEETING DATE**

The meeting for the month of May will be held at 7:30 PM in the Rastall Center on **TUESDAY THE 27th** in room 203. The change in date is the result of the Memorial Day holiday, since it was believed that a number of members may be away for the long weekend. Our program this month will be presented by Walter and Cecelia Johnson and will include a slide show of the mushroom expedition to India and Nepal conducted by Manny Salzman. As previously announced, subsequent meetings will be held in our new location at the Otero Bank at Highway 115 and Cheyenne Mtn. Blvd on the fourth Monday at 7:30 PM.

Dues are due and are \$7 for a family membership. They may be paid at the meeting or by mail to Pat Gustavsen at 4460 Arrowhead Dr., Colorado Springs 80908. Help is needed with refreshments at the meetings and in leading forays. Some assistance has been forthcoming in the refreshments area, but not in arranging or conducting forays. Please help in either or both if you can.

The foray for May is on hold. Dry conditions have not been conducive to an early fruiting and scouting expeditions have not been auspicious so far. If anyone has located collectables and can suggest a site, please volunteer your information and we will plan a foray.

The cultivation group, if that formalism is appropriate, is enjoying varying degrees of success. Dennis has had a crop of Pleurotus which suffered an early misse from lack of moisture. The second crop is on its way. A survey will be made at the meeting to see how others are doing.

For those members who are interested in advancing their knowledge of identification, Marilyn Shaw of the Denver society, will be offering a class for beginners. It will be in three sessions, May 28, June 4 and June 11 from 7:30 to 9:30 PM in Classroom C of the Denver Botanic Gardens. The fee is \$24.00 for members of the Denver society, and \$26.00 for others. Anyone wishing additional information may contact Elizabeth Ras at 473-1248 evenings.

Book of the month: Mushrooms of Northern California by David Biek, published by Spore Prints of Redding California. The book is a paperback of 302 pages and covers nearly 500 species of fungi and as a field guide, emphasizes keys and descriptions for identification. It includes material on collection techniques, mushroom anatomy, ecology and poisons. Copies may be ordered through the club for \$8.75 plus shipping and tax. See Noel at the next meeting.

The Russula family:

"People have developed very creative ways of using Russulas--when you are walking through the woods you can see Russulas that have been used to relieve stress--these are the ones that have been kicked. The rest of the Russulas you can see will have been already plucked, turned upside down and used as trail markers. Very seldom can a mycologist who studies Russulas find a useful collection. It is the rare Russula that stands upright and remains unkicked that is useful for study." (From the Mush Rumor, Snohomish County Mycological Society)

*don't kick!*

May 1986

For the new mushroomer:

In a past issue (Spring '86) of Mushroom, the Journal, the following advice for the beginning mushroom collector represented the results of a survey of most important practices--

- 1) Buy and use good field guides
- 2) Join a mycological society
- 3) Take a mushroom identification course
- 4) Go on forays with an experienced mushroomer
- 5) Keep a journal and make good notes

Other advice included: "Feed all unknown mushrooms to your neighbor's dog." "Look for specific edible mushrooms; don't mix species and then try to sort them out." "Learn to make spore prints and recognize the four basic gill attachments--free, not touching the stem; decurrent--descending the top part of the stem; notched; adnate--the entire gill edge against the stem."

The sixth Telluride Conference will be held this year on August 21-24 in Telluride and is intended for all interested in the study of wild mushrooms. Courses will be taught by Gary Lincoff on mushroom identification, Andrew Weil and Wade Davis on psychoactive plants and mushrooms, Rick Kerrigan, Linnea Gillman and John Corbin on mushroom cultivation. There will also be conducted forays into the surrounding areas where edibles are often collected in great variety. For information contact Emanuel Salzman c/o Fungophile, P.O. Box 5503, Denver, CO 80217-5503 or phone (303) 296-9359.



### Gigantea Is Right

Those large items are nature's edible basketballs, formal-  
ally Calvatia Gigantea and known by common folk as  
"puffballs." Displaying these specimens are Donald Cheever

of Mont Vernon and Anna Clemons, a mushroom expert who  
is a fellow worker of Cheever's at Sanders Associates. The  
pound puffballs popped up in Cheever's yard.