
SPORE-ADDICT TIMES



Pikes Peak Mycological Society of Colorado Springs

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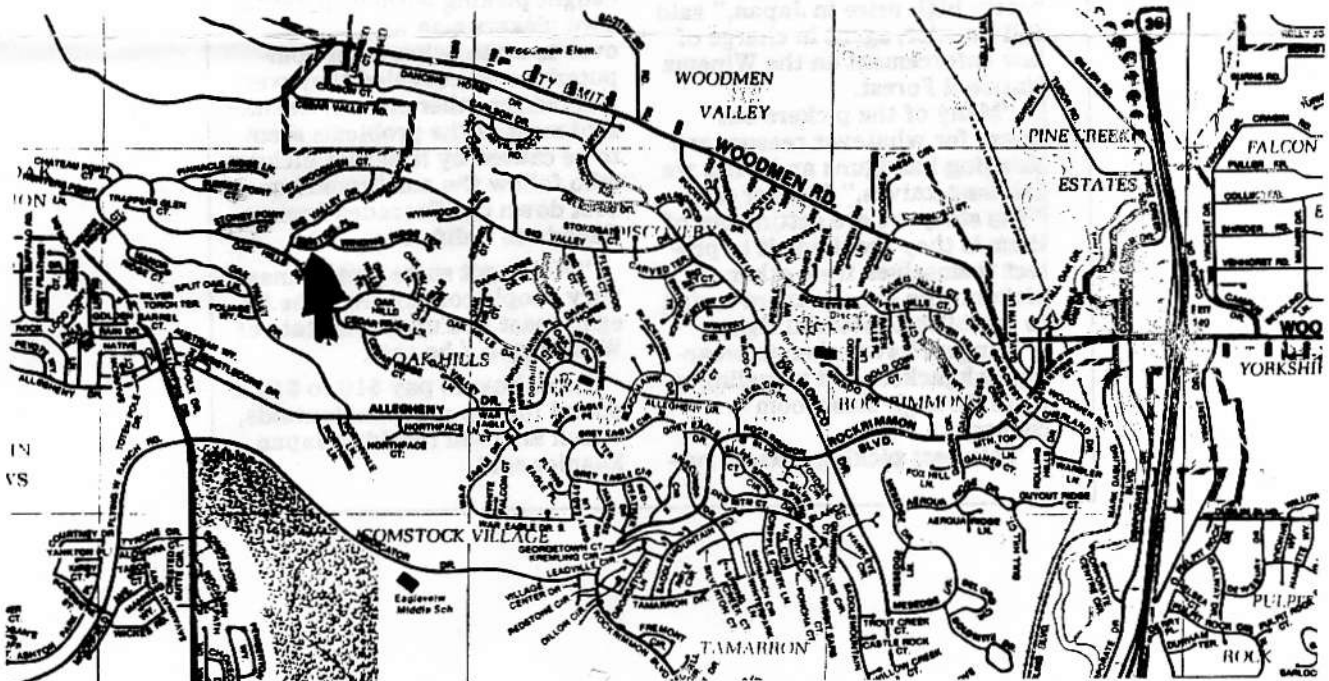
MEETING TOPIC

The October meeting will take place on Monday the 29th of October, a departure from the regular fourth Monday of the Month. We will be meeting at the home of Noel and Genevieve Damon, 7125 Suntide Place, 598-1832. As customary for our last annual monthly meeting, we will be featuring a pot luck dinner and finalizing next year's officer and director positions. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. to allow for plenty of time to enjoy our pot luck. We would like to thank Noel and Genevieve for once again volunteering their home for this meeting location.

The program will include a variety of food items and the election of next year's officers and directors, and any other topics necessary to wrap up this year's business items.

At last month's meeting, Dave Watson and Lori Ligon accepted their nominations for Newsletter Editor and Foray Coordinator, respectively. Annette Campbell and Liz Ras have both agreed to continue in their positions of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. We appreciate their willingness to accept the responsibility of these positions. As Mary Will now cannot accept her previous nomination as president-elect, we will be needing to nominate and elect both presidential and vice-presidential positions at the meeting.

A variety of PPMS T-Shirts has been received for the general inventory. Please decide what additional T-Shirts, baseball caps etc. you wish to purchase and we will finalize an additional order. If we order soon, we will be able to avoid the additional cost of a price increase effective January, 1991.



THE WEST

Forest rangers battle wild mushroom rustlers

Pickers armed and dangerous

Associated Press

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — To the ranks of poachers, marijuana growers and timber thieves, rangers in Oregon's forests can add a new foe — wild mushroom rustlers.

The mushrooms, which grow in the ponderosa pine forests of Oregon's Cascade Range, sell for as much as \$40 a pound in Japan. With that kind of money to be made, those who are picking them illegally are armed and dangerous, rangers say.

"These doggone matsutaki mushrooms they are picking, what we commonly call pine mushrooms, they sell for a pretty high price in Japan," said Bill Reanier, agent in charge of law enforcement on the Winema National Forest.

"Many of the pickers out there, for whatever reason, are carrying handguns and what we call long knives," Reanier said. "The story we are getting out of them is they are doing it to protect themselves from other pickers who are out there trying to establish territorial rights."

Rangers have taken to wearing flak jackets and traveling in pairs through mushroom country.

This past picking season, rus-

tlers descended in large numbers on both the Winema National Forest, where picking is legal with a permit, and Crater Lake National Park, where visitors are supposed to take nothing but pictures.

Rangers at Crater Lake seized 500 pounds of illegally picked mushrooms and handed out 15 citations, said Chief Ranger George Buckingham. Fines range from \$25 for someone picking for himself to \$250 for those picking for profit.

Rangers at Winema National Forest handed out a similar number of citations to those caught picking without permits. Two pickers also were turned over to state police after computer checks revealed they were wanted for other crimes. Reanier said most of the problems seem to be caused by itinerant pickers who follow the mushroom harvest down the Cascades from Canada to California.

"We've got some pretty unsavory people coming from the Oregon coast and up in the state of Washington," he said.

Local buyers pay \$10 to \$14 a pound for top-grade matsutakis, which are then resold in Japan, Reanier said.